

ARVILLE CASTLE.

AN HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

Price 6s. sewed.

ARVILLE CASTLE.

AN HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

Price 6s. 6d.

32 l.

ARVILLE CASTLE.

AN

HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

While fancy roams in fiction's various paths,
To cheer awhile the solitary hour;
Let none forget, numberless truths abound,
To raise the soft compassion of the soul;
To try our sensibility's full stretch;
And rouse philanthropy to act its part.

VOL. I.

London:

Printed for B. CROSBY, No. 4, Stationers Court, Ludgate
Street; and T. WHITE, at his Circulating Library, No. 22,
Down's Street, Piccadilly.

1795.

22

ARVILLE CASTLE.

AN

HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.



VOL. I.

1792

ARVILLE CASTLE.

AN HISTORICAL ROMANCE.

CHAP. I.

Cities of men, with lofty gates and towers,
Concourse in arms, fierce faces, threatening war,
Part wield their arms, part curb the foaming steed,
Single, or in array of battle rang'd,

Both horse and foot:

For in those days Might only was admir'd,
And Valour and heroic Virtue called
To overcome in battle, and subdue

BARON ARVILLE, in an ancient
manor, in the West of England,
and whose ancestors had been in pos-
session thereof time immemorial, mar-
ried early in life a most amiable lady,

VOL. I.

B

daughter

daughter of the lord of the next manor, by name Redwall, and who was mother to four as amiable children, two sons and two daughters. The elder son was Eldred, the second Edwin; the elder daughter Isabella, the younger, Ellen. The times were those of the first century, when Boadicea headed a considerable army against the Romans, commanded by the General Suetonius. The Baron Arville, who had in his youth been a prodigy in the field of battle, as well as (in those days of less refinement than the present) an example of conjugal love and paternal affection, was urged by duty to Boadicea, as well as inclination, to pursue her fortunes against the common enemy. He imparted his intentions to his wife and children: in vain were the affectionate remonstrances of his beloved lady, and the tears of his charming

charming daughters. His sons were actuated by the same heroic ardour; but objects of a tender nature repelled in part their desires. Edwin had formed an attachment with the lovely grand-daughter of the Baron Redwall, his cousin, and, for some months, they had been united by a Druid, unknown to any of either family; for though the brothers had the sincerest affection for each other, they knew not that either was bound by ties of love; yet both were nearly in the same situation. Eldred had indeed not intirely secured his beauteous prize; he had not thought of so quickly leaving what he termed his future happiness: but no sooner had his father acquainted him with his determination, than he became equally at a loss how to accomplish the one, or show a willingness, with which he was unacquainted, for

the other; yet dared not shrink from his two-fold duty, to his father, and his country. Edwin and Ellen were the avowed favourites of each other. Edwin proved his confidence in his sister, by making her acquainted with his marriage. She knew not how to advise him. Baron Arville had other views. He wished to aggrandize his son; and Alice had no fortune: her mother died early, and her father marrying a second time, had a son who was destined to inherit all his father's fortune. Alice was natural perfection; was beautiful, and transcendently innocent. The youthful Edwin had imperceptibly won her affections even before she knew the name of love. Edwin now saw his error, but did not repent; he opened his heart to his sister. She would assist, but could not devise the means. The case
of

of Alice was delicate; she was about to make Edwin a father. Nothing but an elopement from her father's house, and being concealed by Ellen could at present be thought of. It was therefore determined, that after the Baron and his sons had left the castle, Alice and a young female were to be admitted to an unfrequented part of the spacious castle, made as comfortable as possible for privacy, by Ellen, who, as soon as the first paroxysm of grief was over, gently informed her mother and sister of the inmates which were under her roof. Their gentle bosoms were far from upbraiding Ellen, and they loved Alice for the sake of Edwin. But the Baron Redwall's son, on finding the elopement of his daughter, gladly took the resolution of shutting his heart and doors for ever from the lovely Alice; his in-

quiries were few, if any; and if any stimulative of vengeance were wanting, the wife of Redwall had an inexhaustible store. Eldred was less happy than Edwin; his treasure indeed was in the hands of parents good and worthy, but they were his father's vassals. Edith was young, amiable, and lovely, and loved Eldred for himself alone, but would not consent to a private marriage to mar the Baron of Arville's hope in the person of his eldest son. She vowed eternal constancy, unless she saw him united to another. With these hopes and fears he however boldly met the enemy in the field of battle; mean time Alice, with the mother and sisters of her beloved Edwin, spent the time in praying for their success and speedy return from the field of carnage; but, alas, those days were not in their power!

power! and Alice brought a son to the unspeakable joy of those amiable women, whose attention and care, for those dear relations in the field, was much divided with the lovely stranger. Months rolled on; the horrors of war were many; but they being inhabitants of the castle, were frequently informed of the safety of those so dear to them, till the fatal battle, where Boadicea was repulsed, when the dreadful news of father, and sons being among the slain, were forwarded to Arville Castle. Then it was that their hopes being no more, the amiable inhabitants of the castle became a prey to grief, neither being able to console the others. Young Edwin, for so was the infant named, was the only joyful inhabitant. His infantine smiles were even, if possible, an addition to their despair. They saw

in him, indeed, a distant prop to their house; but where was the helper of his infant years, or the certainty of being preserved in times so dreadful to the barons, under the hands of their inhuman conquerors? It were hard to decide whether the grandmother, mother, or aunts were most interested in the cause of helpless innocence. Certain it is, he was possessed of all their united affections. But not long were they permitted even this small consolation; for the Romans had conquered, were still conquering. Boadicea had indeed set them a pattern of barbarity, to revenge her wrongs, that cost the enemy seventy thousand men; her disappointment, however, at last made her commit the dreadful act of suicide. Suetonius was of a most sanguinary nature; and after the defeat of the Britons, devastated every manor,

manor, town, and village; the ancient perishing by the sword, the young by the most shocking of all human calamities; their men either killed or made prisoners, left no hope for the wretched females of those days; their rank or birth were to them of no avail; all, all fell victims to the merciless rage of their barbarous conquerors. Alas, Alice, and her child were soon to be deprived of the comfort of those dear and amiable relatives! A band of Romans encompassed the castle of Arville! An ancient domestic was alone acquainted with a subterraneous cavern, which none but the Baron and himself had ever explored. He flew to his ladies, and with the utmost impatience and horror dragged them with him, and secured the vaulted recess. Their astonishment and grief were inexpressible when they found

themselves cut off from the society of their beloved Alice and her helpless infant. In vain they intreated the assistance of Leonard to return, and bring them to the cavern; he assured them, that it was impossible; since the armed Romans were already in possession of the castle before he so fortunately procured their safety; had Alice been on that side of the castle, he had preserved her too; but she was walking with her child on the terrace, bemoaning the fate of her Edwin—a party of the enemy approached her, and with savage ferocity, seized and would have rudely treated her, had not Julius, a noble Roman, stepped between to her relief: he saw, he loved, and pitied beauty, virtue, and innocence in distress: he ordered his band to unhand, and leave her to himself. Alice fell on her knees, and
intreated

intreated his mercy for herself and fellow sufferers. He saw none but herself; he was moved, and assured her he would make enquiries concerning them. He conducted her to a chamber, and set a trusty guard at the door, while he traversed, and enquired in vain for the unhappy fugitives. Not a servant could inform him, but were equally anxious for their fate; and a general search after them commenced from every quarter. Julius, the noble Julius, returned to Alice, who was waiting in fearful expectation; his return, however, added to her grief, already unutterable. In vain did Julius protest his bands knew not of them, in vain endeavoured to sooth her distracted mind; but it was of no avail; a despair, bordering on madness, seized her; and she suffered her infant to be removed, without show-

ing any mark of affection towards him. The night was dreadful, and the returning day obliged them to treat her as a maniac; she, in truth, was one; Julius himself attended her with the most unremitting solicitude, and seemed absorbed in sorrow at the calamities which war had inflicted on the unhappy house of Arville. Several days elapsed, and Alice asked not for her child. She sung indeed of Edwin Arville, and seemed frequently to converse with him, for hours, in the tenderest language. Julius had learnt the carnage that had happened, and was really at a loss how to assuage or compose such aggravated grief: his heart was interested in the fate of Alice; and could he have restored her female friends, he would have counted it the happiest hour of his life: but fate had otherwise decreed, and duty

to

to his country obliged him to leave this castle a prey to grief and love, after having made every effort for its preservation and protection. Alice had no intervals of reason; and months rolled on in this state of complicated misery. Young Edwin indeed grew, and a crisis was earnestly anticipated that might once more introduce him to his mother, and restore her to her intellects, alas! also to an incessant cause for sorrow.

to his country, obliged him to leave
 this castle a prey to grief and love,
 since having made every effort for his
 preservation and protection. Alas!
 had not interests of reason and
 months rolled over in this state of con-
 fusion, and a crisis was earnestly
 anticipated that might once more in-
 vade him to his soul, and restore
 him to his intellects, alas! also to an
 agonizing and fearful horror.

CHAP. II.

In vain the Muse would whisper some relief
To calm the strong invasion of their grief.
What consolation from a Muse can flow,
That feels the anguish of such social woe?
When so much virtue is so soon remov'd,
When none succeeds, ev'n could they be belov'd;
What conscious eye can now refuse a tear
To such sad deaths that cost those friends so dear?

We leave the miserable Alice, and
return to the subterraneous cavern,
where the unhappy mother, and her
two daughters, whose grief was aug-
mented by the uncertain fate of Alice,
and her son; for though Leonard had
ventured from a distant part of the re-
cess, he had never been fortunate
enough

enough to see any domestic belonging to the castle. All the information he obtained was that of the Romans being in possession, and keeping a kind of garrison; it was with difficulty, therefore, that Leonard procured the necessaries of life, for the voluntary prisoners, not daring to make themselves known, lest destruction should attend the discovery, and which indeed would have been certain, had any one but Julius been the conqueror. They perhaps would have borne their lot without repining, had Alice, and the young Edwin been of the solitary party; but the thoughts of their death, or perhaps what was still worse, their sufferings, corroded their lives with constant wretchedness and woe. Their provisions were small, and coarse; at that they repined not: their clothing was become almost filthy, and

and they had no change: money they had none; nor one instrument to sooth their misery, or charm their care; not one book to pass away the gloomy moment: time hung heavy on their hands; and though calculated by nature, as well as education, for refined conversation, yet conversation had lost its charms: their thoughts were all ingrossed by their melancholy losses, and the world was to them a perfect void: their hours were spent in weeping; and they were not able to console each other. Leonard was employed in watching his opportunities to pick the fruits, near the recess, which was their principal sustenance; and the approaching winter had a thousand additional horrors in perspective. Often would Isabella and Ellen endeavour to persuade their mother to venture on the world, and the benevo-

benevolence of its inhabitants : in vain
were their united prayers and tears:
“ Go,” she would say, “ my beloved
“ children; go, and seek that happi-
“ ness which my age would not per-
“ mit me to partake, even were it
“ found, and would but prolong a
“ life devoted to misery! Have I
“ not lost my husband, the friend of
“ my youth; and my sons, which, if
“ spared, had been props to my house
“ and age, and your protectors? but
“ since Heaven has removed them
“ from us, you must rely on its om-
“ nipotent arm, which will protect
“ the virtuous. Go, in that strength,
“ and leave me also to its care. Con-
“ ceal your family and birth, lest it
“ should affect your personal safety,
“ and I should thence be bereaved of
“ you. Endeavour to learn the fate
“ of our beloved Alice, and her help-
“ less

“ less Edwin, that now is the only
“ hope of comfort left, to hear they
“ are well, or gone to their lost; their
“ hapless Edwin; there is my hope,
“ and I trust shortly to meet them, to
“ part no more.” The sisters were in
silent tears during this affectionate
mother’s expressing her hopes and
wishes: the sensations of both were
indeed different: Isabella determined
to share her mother’s fate, wherever
it might be cast; while Ellen, though
not less in filial love, heard her mo-
ther’s mention of their departure with
mingled grief and pleasure; she en-
tertained hopes of Alice being restored
with young Edwin to them, and one
of a still tenderer nature lay as near
her heart. Young Raymond had, pre-
vious to the Baron Arville and his
sons departure, made a visit to the
castle, and went with them to share
their

their fortunes: he was an only son of an ancient house, whose father had bled in his country's cause, and his house was despoiled; his mother he knew not of, and therefore had few hopes but what he could attain by military valour: he saw Ellen, and feeling loved; but prudence forbade him to make known his ardent wishes. Ellen had too much penetration not to see the situation of his heart; his behaviour indeed was restrained, but tender. She could not meet his eyes without that secret intelligence that communicates more than words when souls are in unison. It was so. The young and beautiful Ellen was all Raymond could have wished; had he imparted his love to her; he too saw her predilection in his favour; and this spurred him on to glorious achievements: he fought at the side of the
Baron

Baron Arville, and twice saved his life; though at the fatal period of it he had flown to assist the sons, who were in the most imminent danger, had slain three Romans in their defence, and was desperately wounded by a fourth, and, for his valour, was made a prisoner. This youth it was for whom Ellen was willing to leave her lonely recess. She did not indeed inform her mother and sister of this part of her intentions; but told them she would venture on the world in the character of a peasant, and endeavour to alleviate, if possible, their many wants and necessities, which began to be severely felt by all. Ellen's preparations were very small, except that of the advice and directions of her mother and sister, and the consolations she endeavoured to sooth them with, to make less keen the edge of her departure. Two days they allotted

ted to spend longer together; and on the third, Leonard, with a heavy heart, had procured her a peasant's dress, the best, indeed, his means admitted, and with many tears and heart-rending sighs, this amiable, but unhappy trio parted, fearing to meet no more. Ellen's spirits and hopes, aided by a natural vivacity, however, made her the least unhappy; but her filial tenderness was visible in leaving her beloved mother and sister in so miserable a situation: however her resolution was now fixed, and she tore herself from them. Leonard, attending her to the next domain, committed her to the care of that Almighty Protector, who never leaves nor forsakes those that rely on him.

ELLEN travelled on with all the speed she was capable of, and night began to appear ere she had met with
the

the eye of mortal. She sat herself down weary and hungry at the foot of a large oak, whose venerable branches afforded her a noble canopy, and on which, if possible, she determined to rest that night. She began to try her skill at climbing, and with great difficulty, after a cooling draught of a limped stream that flowed near her shelter, accomplished her intentions, and seated herself amidst its benevolent boughs. Night fast approached, and Ellen was fallen in a slumber, from which a human voice roused her; and she soon found, by the fervency of its expression, that it was directed to the Supreme Being. Ellen's astonishment was inexpressible. It was her native language, and it was the devotion of a Druid: but did not Ellen know, that the whole race of them were extirpated by the cruel Romans, when her father's house was
cut

cut off from society? She listened with attention; she would have spoke, but fear withheld her. Thought she, "Am I safe? if I venture down, all may be lost;" but it was in vain she endeavoured to conceal some heart-rending sighs, and which were eagerly caught by the object of her fear, who exclaimed, "Whoever thou art, disturbed spirit! I conjure thee, whether aërial or human, to fear not the object before thee. If mortal, I may assist thee; if otherwise, I may, by my holy function, enable thee to rest in the world of spirits." Ellen heard with joy these reviving sounds, and answered, "I am mortal, but unfortunate, and seeking a place to rest this night, ascended this tree to protect me from noxious animals, or the more savage Romans. I accept your offered assistance, and claim

"claim your protection." As she said this she descended; and by the faint light of the now rising moon discovered a venerable Druid, who embraced her with parental affection, and led her to his retreat, which was a subterraneous cave, situate beneath that tree Ellen had so fortunately chosen for her night's residence. A cavity just admitted them one at a time, and was so concealed by nature in its folds, that it appeared but as a worn hollow in the trunk. They descended several steps formed in the root, which brought them to a cavern about thirty or forty feet in width, and nearly as broad; a lamp was suspended in the middle of its roof, and a bed of leaves presented itself at one corner. A piece of rough oak was sufficient for two to sit on, and another piece served as a table. The Druid placed Ellen, and

hastened to give of those refreshments he had, which were a shell of milk, and some nuts fresh gathered from the trees of the wood which Ellen had passed, but not observed: She ate with eagerness, and was debating strongly with herself, whether she should discover her family and sex to her venerable host, or not. He saw a conflict, and tenderly asked her the cause. Ellen was unequal to deception, and determined to conceal nothing from him. He listened with attention, and seemed lost in thoughtful sorrow on finding his protegee of the softer sex: (Ellen too observed it.) He was well aware of the difficulties she had to encounter, and of the impropriety of her continuance with him: he heard her however without interruption, and was much affected with her recital. When she had closed her story

story to the moment in which he had heard her sighs and she his devotion, he informed her, that he believed himself the only one of his order that had escaped the savage brutality of the Romans, who caused them to be thrown into the fires prepared for their sacrifices, when victory had crowned their battles ; some few indeed escaped to Ireland, and the Hebrides ; but this venerable father alone, it was believed, had secured a retreat in his native land. He, perhaps, was favoured by Heaven in a particular manner. He was of an order that could not rejoice to shed human blood. His ideas of the Supreme Being were more enlarged and refined, than he was allowed by his brethren to propagate, especially a part of it, which declared suicide no crime. His manners were mild ; he

was meek, benevolent, and humble; and himself and Ellen enjoyed an evening's conversation, chaste, pure, and edifying. He advised her as to the track she should pursue, and strongly urged her still to conceal her sex; he assisted her with a few necessaries, and in the morning accompanied her to the verge of the wood, where they took an affectionate leave of each other; Ellen noticing the wood and tree where she had found so worthy and unexpected an host, and promising, if possible, to inform the Druid of her future adventure, she took the name of Leod, and travelling round a large circuit, came near her paternal mansion, which was now converted into a strong garrison. She sought in vain to find some of the vassals or tenantry, but nothing was to be seen except Romans. She spent
several

several days and nights in this sorrowful and silent enquiry, lodging in the trees which commanded a view of Arville Castle. She was at length, by break of day, one morning, alarmed by the sound of many horses trampling, and beheld the Roman General, with a large train, approach and enter the house of her father; great joy seemed to reign at his arrival, which almost burst the heart-strings of the lovely but unfortunate Ellen, who now gave up all thoughts of the helpless Alice, and her infant Edwin. She turned from the mournful scene, and pursued her journey, she knew not whither.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

CHAP. III.

What heart of rock could long dry-eyed behold
Such moaping melancholy, and moon-struck
madness?

Compassion quelled his best of man, and gave
Him up to tears — — — — —
Till firmer thoughts restrained excess.

MILTON.

WE will now accompany the noble
Roman Julius, in his return to the
castle of Arville, with anxious enqui-
ries after the unhappy maniac. He
flew to the apartment of Alice; she
knew him not, but was extravagantly
singing a song on the wars; and re-
peatedly asking her Edwin, "if he saw
such a part of the battle as she de-

“scribed.” Julius could, although knowing her situation, scarce avoid a minute search to see if Edwin was not really there. He spoke in gentlest language to her. She called him Raymond. “Did you,” says she, “see my father and brother fall in the battle? Why did you not assist Edwin to succour them? It is you, I suppose, have murdered the mother and sisters of my lord; he will revenge their deaths; so, Raymond, take care. Edwin will be here speedily, and I like you too well to see you fall by his hand.” This, and such like, was all that Julius could gather, this all the encouragement he met for unabated love like his. He would have foregone his country to have procured her the friends she so lamented. But grief corroded his heart,

heart, when he thought her attachment to Edwin was like for ever to exclude a second love; he admired her constancy, as he adored her person; and left her awhile to enquire after her child. He found him, blooming as the vernal months; his beauties just as opening to a fond parent's eye; his lisping tongue and fondling actions endeared him to the Roman General, and he taught him the name of father. "I will be a father to him; I will be a husband to his mother, should she, in moments of reason, even reject my suit," said he, while the big tear stole down his manly cheek. Young Edwin, during the residence of Julius at Arville Castle, was his only companion. He visited Alice often, and was as often mistook for Raymond, and received her advice to quit her presence, left the supposed

Edwin should find him, and seek his vengeance for his lost relatives. He was uneasy about this Raymond; he fancied a lurking love was smothered, which made her want him to avoid Edwin. "I am," said he, "still more miserable should she love another, and it is duty only that attaches her to Edwin." He staid a few days at Arville Castle; and then finding his happiness decrease, determined to leave it, in order to make more particular enquiries after its late owners, and if possible discover the person of Raymond, if he yet lived. He took an affectionate leave of young Edwin, and recommended him and his mother to the care of some trusty domestics, with particular injunctions, if they saw a moment of returning reason to present Edwin to her sight; he hoped for the happiest effects from it;

it; and fondly anticipated the moment of its arrival. He left Arville Castle, and proceeded to enquire of, and examine all the prisoners that had fallen into the hands of the Romans, and fortunately discovered among them that Raymond, of whom he thought himself in danger of being rivalled. He was struck with the dignity of his person, and determined not to be too rash in the conjecture he had formed. He ordered the massy chains to be taken from him, himself aided in releasing the noble youth from those marks of bondage; he invited him to his table, which Raymond accepted with gratitude, and their repast was assisted by reason and sentiment. Julius enquired those particulars which lay near his heart, but did not disclose his knowledge of Alice. He could discover however nothing in

Raymond to corroborate the suspicion he had formed, and generously offered the youth his friendship. Raymond accepted the offered boon; and in return made Julius happy by the declaration of his passion for the lovely Ellen, whose loss he sincerely deplored. Julius lamented his inability to acquaint him with the fate of those whose preservation would have been so dear to either of them; but Julius could not yet give up Alice, nor her retreat. He was pleased with his new friend; and in compliance with his request released all the prisoners in his power, who swore fealty to the Roman government. Raymond used every enquiry after his lost friends, but could get no satisfactory account, only of the death of those for whom he had so nobly fought. The Baroness Arville and her two daughters were supposed

supposed to have fallen victims to the rage of war and its train of evils, since no possible means had been left untried for their discovery. Julius made Raymond a Chief of a Roman Legion; and he was dispatched by him to Rome, for orders from the Emperor; his behaviour and fidelity procured him the esteem of all, and he might be truly called a mediator between the Britons and Romans.

CHAP.

supposed to have been written by the
 author of the "History of the
 no doubt is a fact that the
 tried to make a distinction between
 the two. The first of these is the
 and he is distinguished by his
 history. The second is the
 his history and his
 him to tell him of all
 be truly called a
 persons and persons

CHAP. IV.

Dark was the night, it was the hour
When terror reigns in fullest power;
When, as the learn'd of old have said,
The yawning grave gives up her dead;
When murder, rapine by her side,
Stalks o'er the earth with giant stride.
Nature, whilst fears her bosom chill,
Suspends her powers, and life stands still.

CHURCHILL'S Ghost.

IN the mean time the unhappy baroness and Isabella were deeply deploring their treble losses, and trembling for the fate of Ellen. Leonard made frequent excursions to the castle, but still found it strongly garrisoned. The winter had sat in, and their state was that of misery and want
unutter-

unutterable. The faithful, but equally unfortunate, Leonard had one night laid himself on a bed of leaves to ease his woe-worn frame, for it could not be said to sleep, at a distant part of the recess, when he was surprised by an appearance or figure of a man gently gliding along the cave with a lantern. He startled, not through fear, but lest they were discovered. He gently rose, and followed, and fortunately it bent its way contrary to that where the unhappy ladies were in vain seeking repose. The man, for Leonard now perceived it was one, seated himself on a clump of wood, and putting down his lantern, fervently implored the divine protection till he should be taken from this land of trouble; but who can paint, or express the astonishment of Leonard at recognizing the person of the
the

the Baron Arville? his senses gave way, and as he offered to approach him, fell to the ground, to all appearance, lifeless. The fall roused the baron from his meditations; he sprang with his lantern to view the occasion of this interruption, and with joy inexpressible, found his faithful servant; a cordial he had in his pocket soon restored him to life and joy; the baron augured the most happy consequences at finding the cavern with an inhabitant, and scarcely found breath to ask after his wife and daughters; his satisfaction was soon complete to hear they had escaped the general carnage, and all his wishes were to embrace them. Leonard prayed him to take some rest, and not to alarm them by his sudden appearance, whom they had so long ago mourned as dead. The baron complied, and he led him to
his

his leafy couch, where they talked away the hours till the usual time of meeting. The baroness and Isabella were much surprised at the altered and chearful looks of Leonard, who of late had been uncommonly gloomy, which arose from his inability to procure the common necessaries of life, of which they stood in so much need; that the baroness rather, and uncommonly with her, peevishly observed it; Leonard felt it, and exclaimed, " My honoured and beloved lady, you
" would not have found my looks altered, unless an happiness had presented itself, in which you will be
" able to take a large share; I cannot
" declare the joy I feel in being the
" bearer of news that is so great, so
" good, so unexpected." " Alas," replied the baroness, " the news must
" be of an uncommon nature that can
" give

“ give me happiness. My lord and
“ sons are numbered with the dead; I
“ am bereaved of my daughter Ellen,
“ who is a wandering fugitive; my
“ young Edwin and his mother Alice,
“ equally dear to me, perhaps pining
“ in misery and want, perhaps, with
“ my beloved family, in the quiet
“ abodes of the grave! would to
“ Heaven, I were assured of it; it
“ would take a heavy load from my
“ overburdened bosom!” Leonard
answered, “ Lady! the ways of Hea-
“ ven are intricate, and mysterious,
“ and past the power of mortal man
“ to fathom: but the news I have to
“ communicate is what will, nay must
“ gladden your heart, notwithstanding all
“ your dismal, though not without
“ reason, just forebodings.” Isabella,
who had been a silent observer, now
spoke; “ Is Ellen returned; and has she
“ found

"found our sister Alice, and Edwin?"

"No, my loved lady! it is not so; but

"we are not without hope it yet may

"be; it is even better than that,

"though that would glad our hearts

"with infinite joy." "Speak plainly," said the baroness. "I fear," said Leonard, "least the joy I bring

"should be productive of evil. Com-

"pose yourselves; and tell me, should

"one rise from the dead, can you

"bear with fortitude the happy meet-

"ing?" The ladies could hear no more; they fell on the neck of Leonard, imploring an explanation so interesting to their feelings. The Baron Arville, who had been an observer of this scene and conversation, was no less agitated than his wife and daughter; he approached them, saying, "Behold, my love, my wife, my

"Isabella, your long lost husband

"and

"and father!" They both saw him and became instantly senseless; but the care of the baron, his ardent embraces, equally bestowed, and a few drops of the renovating cordial assured them, that the baron lived, and called their wandering functions back to life and joy unutterable. What scene could be more interesting? what pen or words describe it? it may be conceived, but not expressed. The ladies were eager to know the history of the baron, after his departure; the baron as eager to know who was meant by Alice and Edwin: but Leonard entreating them to defer the explanation till they had taken their homely and scanty meal, they obeyed the desires of their valuable friend and servant. The baron was much affected at the extreme poverty of their repast, but the ladies declared it the most delicious they

they had ever partaken. It being ended, and having returned thanks to the Author of their being for their present refreshment, existence, and happiness, they proceeded to enquire of each party their narration. The ladies acquainted him, in few words, with theirs, and satisfied him with respect to Alice and Edwin. He deplored their fate with them, and determined to risk himself, if possible, to learn their fate; but of that he said nothing. He then began to inform them of his sufferings since he left his castle; told them the battle had been desperately fought, and that young Raymond continued with great valour long at his side; and not only preserved him twice, but left him to assist his sons Eldred and Edwin; that he feared he fell with them, as he never more heard of him, or them;
himself

himself was cast among the slain, and many hours passed in which he was insensible; till midnight was he in this situation, when he was roused from his stupor to a full sense of pain and extreme misery, by the attention of a young man and woman, who bound up, as well as they were able, his wounds, and betwixt them conveyed him from among that scene of blood and slaughter; they procured a mule, which they laid him on, and by as gentle means as they could use, carried him many miles to a cottage; a dislocation which had happened to one of his legs, added to many wounds, required much care and time to reinstate him; but one of the unfortunate Druids, who had escaped the general carnage, and was concealed in this cottage, greatly assisted his recovery; when he had come sufficiently
to

to himself, he recognized a son and daughter of one of his own vassals; the cottage was not theirs, but belonged to a distant relation, of whom they intreated its use for the unfortunate Baron Arville; here he met all that genuine, though rude hospitality, that in all ages was the characteristic of Britons; its apparent poverty had made it unnoticed by the Romans, and was in part concealed by its contiguity to some unfrequented mountains. When he had so far recovered as to be in a condition to be moved, his faithful attendants, who had not left him, conveyed him to their own cottage on the baron's domains. The youth had fought, but escaped unhurt from battle; he had learnt the fate of Arville, and his sons, and with his sister's assistance was determined, if possible, to rescue their bones from the
general

general heap. Edith, for it was the young and charming Edith, with joint affection for her brother Leodine, and her lover Eldred, had left her home, in hopes of being an assistant to their wants, or wounds, if they escaped with their lives; her filial hopes were crowned with success, not so her love; it was however a fund of happiness for the brother and sister, that they had so fortunately been instrumental in saving the baron's life; they mourned in secret the loss of his sons; but it was the chance of war. He said he long remained concealed in this friendly cot, and was supplied with the necessaries, though not the luxuries of life; that he recovered his wounds, but his health declined through grief for the loss of so charming and amiable a family; he had no doubt but the female part of it had

VOL. I. D fallen

fallen victims to the ferocity and barbarity of the Romans ; he little knew the heart of Julius, or he would have thrown himself on his protection ; it was alone owing to his forbearance that even the cottage of Leodine and Edith had been spared the general devastation. He had long formed the design of visiting in private this recess, but had not the most distant idea of finding in it his beloved baroness and her amiable daughters. He almost adored Leonard for this proof of his attachment ; and nothing was wanting to compleat his present happiness, as far as poverty and wretchedness would admit, but the presence of his Ellen ; he was fearful, on her account, lest her sex should be discovered, and herself fall a prey to some of those lawless ravishers with which Britain now abounded.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

See the heroic maid, with ardent zeal,
Fearless of danger, tread the dreadful field
To find her friends, her love, alas! in vain
The pious hope, to intomb their dear remains.

ELLEN, or rather Leod, in the unknown rout she took, traversed the field of battle which had been so fatal to her house. Thousands of slain were yet above the surface of the earth; many in part devoured by the birds and animals of prey. Britain then had many wolves. But Ellen, fearless of danger, determined for some time to make her abode in this land of horror and carnage, and if possible, find some

remains of those so dear to her. She endeavoured to recognize the cloaths or armour of those whom in vain she fought. She indeed did not wholly lose her labour; for she found many gems of intrinsic value. She at first turned from them with abhorrence. " Shall " I," says she, " become a plunderer " of the dead? shall I traverse the dust " of my unhappy countrymen and be- " loved family with such a view, when " my intentions were truly filial, to " entomb their dear remains with my " own hands? Oh! my father, my " brothers, my Raymond! would not " your shades reproach me with im- " piety, to disturb the dead with " such mercenary views?" She threw from her those gems she had before taken, and retired to a tree, where she had determined to spend her night; her wallet, as filled by the Druid, was
nearly

nearly exhausted, and very little did the surrounding country produce; a few acorns helped to support her existence, and of water there was no want. She soon fell into a slumber, and thought herself in the recess, with her mother and sister. She fancied herself supporting their expiring frames on her bosom, one arm encircling each. "Ah! Ellen!" cried the baroness sorrowfully, "those gems so wantonly
" thrown from you might have con-
" tinued our existence, might have
" supported longer our miseries and
" wants. Soon, alas! dear Ellen,
" will you also feel the powerful wants
" of nature, and sink under its pres-
" sure!" At that instant she thought that she saw her father, who fiercely demanded, why she had not secured the treasure thrown by Providence in her way, and thus have saved them all

from otherwise certain destruction?

The fierceness of his tone and threatening attitude, caused Ellen to awaken, in unspeakable terror, from her vision; and she thought it must be the will of the Supreme, that she should follow the dictates of her parents, one of whom, perhaps at that moment, might be sinking indeed into the world of spirits through dire want, the other exhorting her to preserve her mother's existence. Earnestly and devoutly did she pray for the return of day to assist her in her search; and then began with indefatigable zeal to collect every ornament that presented itself: it was a work that required all the magnanimity and courage of a hero to perform; an indelicate task for the gentle and lovely Ellen; but she thought herself inspired in the execution of her arduous undertaking, and the day closed on her loaded with treasure.

She

She determined on the morrow to bend her steps to the recess, but was obliged to measure back all the ground she before had trod, and which cost her many days. During her wanderings she overtook a travelling harper, whose company passed many a tedious mile more agreeably than Ellen had before experienced; and the harp had its peculiar beauties with Ellen, who excelled on that instrument. She was fearful of letting her companion know her desire and ability to purchase it, lest a discovery of her treasure might produce fatal effects; but the apparent amiableness of the man won so far her confidence, that she informed him of her travels through the field of battle, and shewed him a ring which she had there found, the sight of which convulsed almost to death the venerable harper. He

D 4

exclaimed,

exclaimed, " Alas, Edwy ! my son,
" my darling son ; thou art indeed
" then numbered with the dead ! Oh,
" might I now but keep that ring for
" thy dear sake ! It is all I can ask
" of Heaven ; it was a virgin present
" of thy beloved mother's, previous
" to our happy, till this fatal battle,
" happy union ! Her have I lost by
" the hands of ruffians, him by the
" fate of war ! Dear youth, what re-
" compence can I give thee for the
" precious pledge ?" " It is your's,"
said Ellen ; " forbid it, Heaven, that
" I should retain it from thee. It is
" happiness sufficient that I can re-
" store it to you ; take it, and may
" you have a better fate than those to
" whom it belonged. There is what
" will add much to my pleasure, yet
" I scarce dare ask it." " If it is in
" my power," said the harper, " it
" shall

" shall be your's, generous young
" man." " Will you then," said Ellen,
" part with your harp? I will re-
" compence you for it, with ano-
" ther gem from the same place."
" Agréed," said the worthy man;
" but I desire nought for it but what
" you have now so bountifully be-
" stowed;" but Ellen would not, on
other terms, accept it; and Ellen
gave him a specimen of her abilities,
which struck the old man with won-
der. " You did well," said he, " to
" desire it; you will be enabled to
" enter, with welcome, any house, let
" who will be it's possessor. The Ro-
" mans particularly will court your
" company, and pay you generously: I
" have experienced it, during my tra-
" vels, who am much less able to
" please." Ellen lamented the de-
privation of the old man; but he as-

fured her, he should soon be able to replace it with the reward she gave him. They now drew near the late house of Arville, and Ellen thought to try the power of her harp to gain admittance. Her companion left her, with many prayers for her future happiness, and Ellen struck up the music of her harp and voice. The Romans on the ramparts encouraged her, and the court rang with praises of the young harper. Some provisions were brought; and the refreshment it afforded, exhilarated Ellen in a manner she had never experienced; it was aided by a horn of wine, which produced such effects as made even Ellen wonder; it enabled her, at least, to act her part with more propriety than in her low state, in want of refreshment and spirits, she could possibly have done. In a short time Julius
was

was informed of her abilities, and ordered her into his presence. Nothing but a state little short of inebriation could have supported her during this humiliating scene; but she performed wonders; and she was struck with astonishment to see on the knees of Julius, a child she thought could be none but the young Edwin: he lisped the name of father, and Julius seemed to adore him. "What can this mean," thought she; "Father, does he not say? it is my brother's perfect form. Oh! what am I to suppose is gone with Alice? Can she have received to her arms the despoiler of our house, and rest in splendor while its owners are sinking under poverty and woe unutterable? forbid it Heaven! Was not Alice a pattern of perfection? Can it be possible? I will not in-

D 6

"dulge

"dulge the thought, unless my eyes
"convince me of its reality." Julius, and the child, were much pleased and entertained with Ellen, and detained her to the time that darkness pervaded the land; when she made a motion for her departure. Julius entreated her to stay, and with apparent reluctance she at length complied. He made Ellen sup with him; and it afforded some satisfaction to her, that Alice was not of the party. Her heart burned to ask some questions, but prudence restrained her tongue; and she was determined to wait the event with patience. Her mind ran on the recess, where she anticipated the comforts Leonard could procure with her treasure to administer to their numerous wants. She was shewn to a bed, which was formerly the Baron Arville's; the wine she had drank and the fatigue she had indured, stopped,
for

for some time, the powers of reflection, and she sunk in the arms of sleep. To her astonishment, some time past the hour of midnight, her door opened, and to her affrighted eyes presented her father, the Baron Arville. Fear took possession of her senses, and she covered herself with the bed cloaths. She heard footsteps some time parading the room, and, to her unspeakable happiness, heard the door gently shut; she lifted up her eyes, and all was impenetrable darkness. He had a light which discovered him to her, and it disappeared with him. She found her spirits much depressed, and she thought of staying no longer in the castle. But Alice was not yet forgotten; and the return of day determined her to wait, if invited, the event of another night. Julius ordered the harper to his presence;

presence; and Edwin was, as before, seated on his knees. During the repast, Ellen could not help observing, notwithstanding the strong prejudices imbibed so justly against him, a gentleness and nobleness of heart; she wished him a Briton, as the benevolence of his disposition showed him worthy of the name. He continued much delighted with the performances of Ellen, and she had ventured to embrace her beloved nephew; she longed to impart his existence to her mother, yet feared to go without more satisfactory intelligence respecting the ill-fated Alice. The day declined again. Julius again intreated, but Ellen, though willing, prayed another apartment, as her rest was disturbed, she thought, by a phantom the preceding night. Julius laughed at her fears, but readily complied with her request;

request; and she was shown into her own identical chamber, where every thing remained, to her great surprize, untouched. "What can this mean?" said she, "have not the Romans been
" represented as carrying sword and
" fire, rapine and murder, wherever
" their victorious arms appeared?
" yet, but for its inhabitants, I find
" every thing here as in our happier
" days. Alice's chamber was near
" mine; would I could explore that
" also." Full of these thoughts, she lay down in her cloaths till she supposed all the inhabitants of it were retired to rest; and then, gently opening the door, she quitted her chamber to seek that of Alice. She stopped, and listened; and heard some plaintive sound of melody; it was a female voice, but she could not distinguish the words. She drew nearer, and it
con-

continued. She heard the name of Edwin; of her mother, sister, and self; sometimes in song, sometimes as conversing with them. She could not recollect the voice of Alice; it was different from what it had been: perhaps, thought she, grief has altered it. She tried the door, which was fastened; and then retired to her chamber distressed in mind beyond expression. "It must," said she, "be Alice; perhaps a prisoner; who else could utter the names of those to whom she is so dear? Would to Heaven I could by any means discover the truth! and if it were really Alice, I see no great difficulty in Leonard's rescuing her from her bondage." With these, and such like thoughts, did Ellen pass the rest of the night; and in the morning again passed the door, where she heard the most extravagant noise

noise of seeming mirth. She could not stand to listen, so many Romans were continually passing. She however thought to tune her harp where sounds of joy appeared to reign; and was much surprized to hear immediately the voice repeating the song in the same plaintive mood of the preceding night. Still she could not recognize the voice of Alice. She tuned her harp to a song mutually sung by the inhabitants of the castle before their interruption by the Romans, and with pleasure heard it accompanied by the voice she before heard. She then concluded it must be Alice, and no other; and determined to hasten to the recess, and inform those dear friends of her discovery. She was ordered, as usual, before Julius, and the young Edwin, who was grown particularly fond of this new acquaintance.

Ellen

Ellen informed Julius of her intentions to depart; he seemed sullen, and melancholy. "I could," says he, "with pleasure have retained you in my suit. I am going in a few days to quit the castle, and while I am here think you contribute to my peace. I will provide well for you, if you will accompany me; as I feel a degree of pleasure in your company, which I have long been a stranger to." Ellen told him she had some business she must settle, and some friends to consult; and if she found them willing, a few days should bring the obliged Leod before him. Julius would fain have persuaded her to relinquish her intentions; but she would not be moved from her purpose, by any promises, till she had fulfilled her determination to visit the recess, and deposit her treasure. She therefore,

therefore, with a grateful heart, took leave of Julius, and proceeded with all speed round the extensive domains of Arville Castle. She was no sooner gone, than Julius relapsed into the deepest melancholy. It should have been noticed, that at his arrival at the castle, he found Alice the same maniac as he had left her, no one interval of returning reason having occurred, in which she seemed to notice any thing that had happened. She sung, she talked of her late friends, and to them often as though present: sometimes she even appeared as really sensible, and engaged in the most interesting conversation; but to any questions put, or even the presence of Edwin, she never showed the least sign either of joy or grief: his innocent prattle had not the least effect on her; and to Julius she appeared equally

ly

ly indifferent; she shewed no fear at his presence; nor would she ever give a reasonable answer to him, though urged with the greatest tenderness. Julius would have been happy to have restored her and the castle to her friends, and no enquiry had been wanting to effect it. His duty obliged him to quit the castle, and his melancholy increased with the fleeting moments. He was in hourly expectation of being recalled to Rome, and determined if so to take Edwin with him; since his mother's insensibility rendered her incapable of fostering his infant years: he even thought to take Alice with him, but motives of prudence forbade it, unless her convalescence determined in his favour; and of that he now despaired.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

See how the fair one weeps, the tears roll down
Thick as the dew drops on the grass new mown.
Where's the majestic power of thine eye,
No longer able to maintain the strife?
Thou now art mute.

BLAIR'S Grave.

Now violent mirth arrests the list'ning ear,
And joy insane proclaims a fatal truth.

ELLEN, near night, was passing the
cave of the Druid, whose hospitality
she remembered with heartfelt grati-
tude, and being too far from the re-
cess to reach it by night, determined
to spend it with him; she accordingly
descended the same cavity which he
taught her, and soon recognized the
venerable man, who rejoiced much to
see

see her, and who heard with surprize, and some degree of pleasure, though mixed with pain, her adventures. He felt the distress of her mother, and sister, and wished to assist them to recover Alice from the castle. He asked, if she was willing to let him accompany her to her recess; she paused awhile, and thought he might very much assist Leonard in his attempt, should he judge it prudent to risk it. She therefore acquiesced, and he prepared to take all his stock of provisions, hoping to alleviate their present wants. He rejoiced in the treasure Ellen brought, as a means to insure their future comfort. The dawn of day accompanied them on their journey, and with cautious steps they entered the dismal cave. Ellen called aloud the name of Leonard, and was answered by the Baron Arville. The
found

found no sooner caught her ears than she fell into a swoon, from which, with difficulty, she was recovered by the assistance of her mother and sister; (the baron had withdrawn with the Druid for an explanation of his appearance with Ellen in the recess;) and when she found herself in the arms of the baroness and Isabella, she burst into a flood of tears, and exclaimed, "Alas! my father! what have I done to draw on me your vindictive anger? what is my crime, that disturbs the peaceful slumber of the dead?" The baroness now recollected that Ellen knew not of the baron's existence, and with tenderness informed her of his miraculous escape. Ellen was now as nearly overwhelmed with joy, as before with grief and fear; and was eager to throw herself at his feet, to implore his blessing.

sing. The baron appeared, and received Ellen with the warmest paternal love. The Druid had acquainted him with Ellen's fright, at Arville Castle, at his appearance; and the baron had communicated his nocturnal visit, which assured him it was no spectre, but himself. He had not informed the baroness, or his daughter, of his attempt to discover Alice, lest fear for his personal safety should create an alarm he wished them not to feel. He now informed them, that he had twice paid the same visit; and on the last had heard, what Ellen described, the noise of extravagant mirth, of which his time would not permit him to discover the occasion. Leonard kept watch at the private door to assist him in a quick escape, if he had been in danger of discovery; but he met no alarm. He observed a
person

person in the bed of his own chamber, and thought it best to retire, as he perceived the apparel of a man, consequently not the object of his search. Ellen now informed them of all she had observed at the castle, of the desire of Julius to engage her as a page and harper in his service, and of her willingness, if her beloved parents would give their assent to it. They could not acquiesce; they feared the danger attending it: but she so powerfully pleaded the cause of young Edwin, (whom she had learnt would accompany them) of the service she might render him, and through that means discover the situation of the unfortunate Alice, that the baron and baroness at last consented, unless any means could be devised to rescue either from the castle; but of this they entertained very small

hopes, as the child was well attended, and his domestics not known. Ellen had not discovered a single British servant, nor could tell if one remained in the castle of Arville. She displayed her treasure, with an account of her sensations, and her dream concerning the legality of collecting them, and her resolution after her dream. The baron and baroness embraced her with tears, and received the tokens of her pious courage with a suitable thankfulness; it encouraged them to hope, that they should not perish with hunger and nakedness; and they all adored the Power that inspired the virgin Ellen to such deeds of filial love. The Druid was no small addition to their present happiness; and in a few days Ellen prepared once more to leave the recess, and seek her fortune among strangers. Leonard had

had disposed of many of the gems to a good advantage, and had purchased for Ellen some changes necessary for her proper appearance as a harper, and some homely cloaths and good provisions also for the inhabitants of the recess. It was judged better for Ellen to return to the castle before any further nocturnal essays should be made, as she might be of essential service to the cause; also it was resolved, that Ellen should be admitted at the private entrance, during her stay at the castle, on those hours devoted to rest. This being settled, a most affectionate farewell took place, and Ellen, as Leod, set off for Arville Castle, accompanied, as far as prudence permitted, by Leonard and the Druid. She soon arrived at the gates of her once paternal home; she was as soon espied, and Julius received her

with all the marks of the most lively satisfaction. She could not help feeling a pitying sensation for the melancholy which seemed to pervade him; though the cause was far from being known to her. She was shown to the same room as she had slept in last; and which, as has been observed, was her own, and was very favourable for the late determinations. She endeavoured to divert the sorrowing Julius, with the music of her voice and harp; she soothed him, and at length retired to rest, heartily fatigued with the exertions of the day. The next night was fixed for the baron's peregrinations; and Ellen was making every observation possible to discover what they so earnestly desired to know, but it was of no avail; the mirth, and the non-appearance of Alice, as well as her child, was wrapped in dark obscurity.

Night

Night came, and this day ended as the other. Ellen retired, and waited, not without fear, the entrance of her father. All nature seemed hushed, and silent; not a breath was heard in the castle; all was serene, but the distant voices of the centinels hailing their watch. The baron and the Druid made their appearance at Ellen's door, who with joy received them, and in a few words acquainted them with her ill success. They were disturbed on a sudden by the vociferous laughter of a person not far distant; they listened, and lost the sound. Ellen alone ventured to the door of Alice's chamber, and heard the plaintive sounds of deep distress. She tried the door; but it, as before, was fast. She fetched her father and the Druid, who were witnesses to the most extraordinary sounds of mirth.

and sorrow so quickly succeeding each other, as to convince them it proceeded from a maniac. They made an effort to force the door, when some stern voices demanded to know who dared interrupt the repose of the Lady Alice: they heard enough, and precipitately retreated from this scene of horror, being certain, in the present case, they could attain no beneficial end from the sad state in which they had reason to conceive the unhappy Alice was labouring under. Ellen alone had the opportunity of endeavouring to fathom the mystery of her confinement, and it was determined she should make a bold attempt to bring Julius to an acknowledgment of it. They departed, and Ellen accompanied them to the private door, of which before she knew not the situation; and promised to communicate on the following night the

the success of the day. She took a few hours repose, and in the morning tuned the harp at the door of Alice's chamber, who, as before, accompanied it with her voice, Ellen being called to breakfast with Julius, as usual, found him, with the young Edwin, bathed in tears. Ellen gently desired to know the occasion of his grief; but he rather sternly ordered no enquiry. Ellen was forced to desist; but in the course of their repast informed him, that passing a certain chamber, a small distance from his own, and tuning the harp in the way, a voice accompanied it, which had caused her much surprize. Julius listened attentively to this part of the conversation, and asked Ellen "the subject of the song?" "One made, my lord, at the beginning of the battle, which ended so fatally for

E 4 " Britain."

" Britain." Julius requested it to be played. Ellen obeyed, and accompanied it with her voice. " You shall play it at the door," said he, " and I will attend you, and hear this voice you speak of." He did so, and seemed elated. He led Ellen into an adjoining closet, and himself entered the room of Alice. He congratulated her on the music of her voice, but her answers were intirely incoherent. Ellen could make no reasonable comment on them. Alice called him Raymond, the murderer of Edwin, and threatened revenge on his impious head. He mentioned her child; she answered not; but fell into the most extravagant ravings, and obliged him to leave her. He returned to Ellen, who had overheard every thing, and was deeply affected at the dismal fate of Alice. She ventured to ask
Julius

Julius the cause of her malady ; when he frankly confessed how he preserved her, when his hands entered the castle ; of his instantaneous and ardent love for her, and how soon her senses were disordered. Said it was the cause of his melancholy, as he wished her to accompany him to Rome, but was fearful of the consequences : asked the advice of Ellen, who told him she would seriously meditate on the arduous subject, and advise him to the best of her judgment. “ Dear Leod,” said he, “ could you restore her to reason, and “ my arms, you shall be the friend of “ my future life, and fortunes ; and “ Leod and Julius shall henceforth be “ inseparable. I have made Edwin “ my adopted son ; he shall never “ know the want of a father ; his innocence has endeared him to my “ heart, and I feel all the fondness of

“ a parent for him.” Ellen desired to retire for the rest of the day and night ; and reassured him of her every endeavour for the recovery of his fair maniac ; and returned him grateful thanks for his kindness and confidence. She hence determined to use every effort, being interested in the welfare of the noble Roman ; and as Edwin was no more, she reasoned with herself, Why might she not, if Providence restores her reason, bless him with her love, who protected her life and virtue from his bands of ruffians, who will protect her even in madness, and be a father to her helpless infant ? She left Julius, and retired to her chamber, where she spent her time in prayer and meditation, that she might be the happy instrument in restoring Alice, and perhaps, by such a union, her father’s house. These and such like

like cogitations employed her; and at night she repaired to the door of the recess. Leonard and the Druid were waiting; and with joy she imparted her commission to them; they heard with grief and surprize, mingled with pleasure, as each augured the most happy effects from it. The worthy Druid, who was still an inhabitant of the recess, recommended strongly that she might accompany them, as change of situation and the company of Ellen, aided by a powerful preparation, known only to the Druids, for the express purpose of insanity, might effect what otherwise might never take place. They thought, should they get her to the recess, it might only increase her despair; but should she recover, and consent to be the bride of Julius, the young Edwin would be reinstated in the power and honours of

his fathers ; it was therefore agreed, that Ellen should use her preparation immediately, and whatever other means she might judge expedient, as circumstances would admit, to aid her recovery, but by no means to discover herself during their stay, which was expected to be but a few days. Ellen took her leave, and retired, exulting that her plan was approved by her beloved, but unfortunate family. She attended Julius as soon as he rose, and informed him, " that she had considered well the case of the unhappy lady ; that if he would deliver her up into her care, she hoped to be able, by the assistance and blessing of the Supreme, on a specific she possessed, aided by the power of music, to accomplish so desirable an event." Julius embraced the supposed Leod, with tears of affection,

tion, and promised she should be delivered entirely to his care. "But
" in respect to our journey, what
" have you determined?" "To take
" her with us, my lord, as such an
" expedition may favour us in a particular manner." Julius lost no time; he conducted the harper to the room of Alice, where sat a man and woman, late domestics of the baron; Julius ordered them to withdraw, and presented Leod to Alice, as her future companion. She spoke not, nor noticed their entrance; her eyes were rivetted on the floor; and Ellen was much shocked with her altered aspect. The roses had forsook her cheeks; her eyes were sunk in despair; her hair, before most beautiful, now in strange disorder, and her whole appearance miserable in the extreme. Ellen approached her, and taking one hand, fell on her
knee,

knee, and said, "Fair lady! may I,
" an unfortunate youth, implore your
" pity, and permit me to serve you
" as a faithful page, who will endea-
" vour to amuse your leisure hours
" with what harmony he is capable
" of." She suddenly raised her eyes,
" who art thou? art thou Edwin?
" or art thou come to mock at
" my distress? Give me your harp,
" and be gone!" Ellen withdrew a
few paces, and tuned her harp to a
plaintive note, which seemed to re-
call, in some degree, her reason, she
attentively listened, and sung some
words well known to Ellen, which
Ellen dare not own. Julius was
charmed, and Ellen presented the
harp. Alice touched the strings with
inexpressible grace, and sung the bat-
tle song; but its effects on herself
were alarming: she fell into her
wonted

wonted ravings; and Julius, unable to stand the shock, withdrew. The servants were necessary to prevent fatal consequences; and Ellen, leaving her harp, went to her own apartment, where hung a lute, and quickly returning to the door, played part of a solemn dirge, which had been repeatedly sung and performed by the family at the castle after the defeat of the Britons, and which in a moment soothed the ravings of the distracted Alice. She accompanied it on the harp in a manner that prophesied the most pleasing hopes to Ellen of her future success. She entered the room, and was not noticed. She continued playing several airs; in which, in happier days, they had borne a part, most of which Alice recollected, and performed to admiration. Ellen was determined to be constantly by, and if possible,

possible, ingratiate herself with Alice ; but she paid no attention, returned no thanks to her for her attendance ; but this did not discourage the amiable Ellen. In finding Alice and her child, she had gained a great point of her intended peregrination ; and to be her companion, gave her happiness inexpressible. She had not forgotten Raymond, and his name so often repeated kept him alive in her memory. Julius was pleased with her attention, and she every night devoted an hour or two to her parents in the recess. In a few days Julius informed Ellen, or rather Leod, of his obligations to depart immediately ; next day was all the time allotted. Ellen told him she had a singular request to make, and particularly intreated his indulgence. He hastily desired to know what it was ? She replied, that she might be permitted

ted

ted to remove many articles contained in the chamber, which had been appointed for her reception; she would not now disclose the motive, but a short time might convince him of its utility. He paused; "Dear Leod, " I can deny you nothing; but my " heart is set in restoring this castle, " if an opportunity should offer; and " it had been my intentions to have " every thing I had in my power to " save sacred, till I could have delivered to the amiable Alice, those " things which had been wrested " from her family." Ellen assured him, it was for Alice's benefit, that she wished the removal of any thing; and her request was immediately complied with. Ellen had, with difficulty, an opportunity of bidding her beloved friends farewell; all was bustle and hurry in the castle, but the care
of

of Ellen and the watchful prudence of Leonard at length accomplished it. A most tender and affectionate farewell it was; suffice it to say, it surpassed the power of description; and Ellen returned loaded with tears and prayers to her room, where she prepared those things so lately her own, for her journey. A hasty breakfast over, the attendants were in the court waiting for the appearance of Julius; a covered waggon, as complete as possible according to the times, was brought for Alice, a British female and Ellen, with the young Edwin, accompanied them. A horse was led by a Roman for Ellen, if she should be disposed to alter her situation; but of this there was no great need, as she preferred the company of her sister and Edwin to any other. A noble retinue accompanied them, and Arville
Castle

Castle was once more left with only a Roman garrison. The unhappy Alice suffered herself to be led quietly to the vehicle, and showed neither joy nor sorrow at all the changes she saw around her: she kept constantly her harp, and had greatly ceased those violent paroxysms with which she had so lately been possessed. Their journey was somewhat tedious, owing to the carriage of Alice not being able to go those roads which were deemed much nearer. Seven or eight days brought them to the sea side, where a vessel was waiting to receive the Roman general and his retinue: they immediately embarked; and gentle gales wafted them to the Roman shore.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Through all his woes the hero shines confest;
His comely port, his ample frame exprest
A manly air, majestic in distress.
Not sleep's soft powers can close his streaming eyes
When Ellen's image to his sorrows rise;
No peril in her cause he ceased to prove,
His labours equalled only by his love.

HOMER's Oddysey.

RAYMOND, whose embassy had been fulfilled, was again embarked for Britain just before the disembarkation of Julius and his suit: the Emperor was so satisfied with his services, as to appoint him over a legion stationed in Britain; in which situation he continued long, conciliating the differences betwixt

betwixt the Romans and the Britains, intermarrying the women with those under his command, and by that means endearing the families to each other. His government was mild, manly, and benevolent; and during his residence with the Roman legion, not one act of atrocity or barbarity occurred. They assisted in cultivating the lands, and became as it were naturalized to Britain: their wives were prolific, and no part of Britain was better cultivated or more populous. Harmony and love seemed to have set up her throne here, and rustic pleasures abounded in a high degree. Raymond alone was not happy; his friends were no more; his Ellen, for whom he had done immortal deeds, he knew not of; or how, or by what violence she might have fell: this imbittered his hours, as it had soften-

ed

ed his manners : and he determined his future life should be, if possible, devoted to peace ; and his assistance always ready to relieve the distressed of whatever nation. During this term of peace, Claudius, a Roman senator, who had conceived a friendship for Raymond, sent him an offer of his daughter, and an immense portion, for his wife. Raymond, whose affections had never been interested, but for the lovely Ellen, shuddered at the idea ; and to an offer so noble, so generous, he knew not how to reply—to comply he felt not in his power ; to deny, he, though no coward, feared the vengeance of so powerful an enemy at the Roman court—but deny he must ; and in the most respectful terms signified, how deeply the sense of the mighty obligation weighed him down with gratitude ; at the same time he assured him,

him, that nothing but a heart pre-engaged would warrant his refusal; that to the fair Constantia he could not give a heart, and would not basely betray the friendship of Claudius, nor injure his daughter by receiving what he could not repay with affection. Claudius was silent, and did not express any anger at this answer; but resentment glowed in his breast, and he patiently waited an opportunity to undo him at the court of Rome. Julius, indeed, kept off his vengeance for some time; but declining himself in favour, Raymond was dismissed from his command, and it was given to Gallio, much to the joy of Raymond, as he was a man in whom the magnanimity of the soldier and the father of a people were joined; and Raymond had the happiness to see his labours for the public weal crowned with

with success, and continued by the worthy Gallio. Raymond took his leave affectionately both of him and his people, and never did people regret a commander more. Being now at liberty, and of an active disposition (for he dared not give into indolence, lest his melancholy should get the better of his judgment) determined on a travel through Britain, and to endeavour to reconcile the Britons to the government of the Romans, whom it was found, by fatal experience, impossible to subdue. He in general effected it in those places through which he passed; and among all those who had heard of his happy government, he was received with universal joy.

DURING this philanthropic ramble, he fell in with Edith and Leodine,

VOL. I.

F

who,

who, though he knew them not, recognized him as the saviour of the Baron Arville; they expressed their thankfulness for the happiness of knowing him to be still living, and the joy the baron would experience at the welcome news. Raymond, who was all ear at this discourse, eagerly asked, how and where he was preserved? where he now was, that he might fly to embrace him? They promised to acquaint the baron of his existence, but were not warranted to discover his retreat, which themselves were never permitted to enter, the Druid alone had this privilege; neither did they know of the well-being of any other of the baron's family; it had been judged best to make it a profound secret, which, as yet, was strictly observed. Raymond pressed their speed to acquaint the baron, how much he
longed

longed to throw himself at his feet, and to become a son that would cherish his declining years. Leodine lost no time, and the Druid was not less expeditious. He had heard the baron talk in raptures of Raymond's military prowess, and the heroism he displayed in his behalf; it was not long therefore before the baron met him, at the hut of Leodine. Never did a father experience more joy from receiving a long lost child, than did the Baron Arville, at the return of Raymond; never did son bear a more filial love and duty to the most revered parent, than Raymond bore to the baron: he had no parents; his house was extirpated, and the Baron Arville was all the world to him. Mutual embraces and mutual explanations took place; and the baron recommended Leodine and Raymond

to each other's friendship; repeated his obligation to the youth and his sister Edith, and made each a present from the treasure of Ellen. Raymond felt somewhat hurt, that the baron did not invite him to his retirement, thinking him alone; "but," checking himself, thought he, "doubtless, the
"worthy man hath his reasons. Why
"should I desire to pry into his pri-
"vacy? he has recommended this
"youth and his sister to me; and I
"shall henceforth look on them as
"children of the same family. — I
"will, for a while at least, take my
"abode with them, and shall here of-
"ten enjoy the company of my ve-
"nerable friend and father." The baron departed to his recess quite elated, and informed his lady and daughter of his happiness in having seen Raymond. They partook his
joy;

joy ; and eagerly asked, why they were not permitted to see him, that they might personally thank him for the active part he had taken in the baron's preservation? He told them, he thought it far best to conceal, for the present at least, till they heard of the success of Ellen, their situation. He had a presentiment, that they might yet be restored through the means of Alice ; therefore they could not remain too close till such an event might take place. They acquiesced in the better judgment of the baron ; but the heart of Isabella spoke in favour of Raymond's participation of their hopes : she too had beheld him with eyes of love, though not of that ardent kind that took possession of Ellen : she did not pine at his supposed death as a lover, but lamented him as a brother ; and now perhaps

felt something more pleading in her heart.

THE baron usually visited Raymond and his friends every day, and spent several hours in their company; the vassal was intirely laid aside, and Leodine and Edith were admitted to their conversations: and none departed unimproved. Raymond was charmed with his amiable companions; and if he had never seen Ellen, Edith had had an offer of his heart. He loved her with fervency as a sister; and they frequently walked and talked with rapture, of the sons and daughters of Baron Arville. They had both penetration enough soon to learn the state of each other's heart: the name of Ellen caused the starting tear in the eyes of Raymond, while convulsive sighs and streams flowed from

from the heart and eyes of Edith, at the name of Eldred: yet neither had courage sufficient to explain the cause. Once, when Leodine was repeating the state of the battle, where he saw Raymond so heroically fight by the side of the baron, and immediately afterwards fly to the relief of the brothers, but was himself driven to a distant part of the field by the Roman legions, and never saw them more, Edith was overpowered and swooned in the arms of her brother: Raymond was alarmed; and after her recovery, walking alone with Leodine, he asked him the cause of her sudden illness? "Alas! my lord," said he, "it is not for a peasant to rank with his superiors! but there has been a fatal fault with us. Eldred, dear and noble youth, long loved my sister, would have united

“ her by the strongest ties, ere the
“ last parting for the battle. My
“ sister would not consent ; nor does
“ the baron yet know his son’s pre-
“ dilection in Edith’s favour, though
“ it was owing to that circumstance
“ alone, that the life of that valuable
“ man was saved. Nothing but the
“ love of Edith to Eldred, had carried
“ her to the embattled field. Our ef-
“ forts were useless as to them, for we
“ could not ascertain any memento to
“ guide us : and the baron was with-
“ out motion ; we happily recovered
“ him, and look on him indeed as a
“ father. Mine fell in the same bat-
“ tle, and a broken heart robbed us
“ of our mother.” This simple re-
lation unmanned the noble Raymond,
and tears of sympathy rolled down his
manly cheeks. “ Ah ! hapless Edith,”
cried he, “ well may your soul be in
“ unison

“ unison with the unhappy Raymond!
“ Know, Leodine, thou friend of my
“ heart, and brother, that Ellen, the
“ beauteous Ellen, has bound me fast
“ in her chains, though they are chains
“ of death! Never did the baron
“ know the ardent love I bore his
“ charming daughter; and I am free to
“ declare it was love for her inspired
“ my arm in battle; for her, I now
“ forego the offered glory of a Ro-
“ man chief; for her, I rove the
“ world alone; and for her dear sake
“ will bid the world adieu! Hence-
“ forth let us nurse our sorrows, and
“ the names of Eldred and Ellen be
“ our continual theme!” Leodine

was charmed with the confidence of Raymond, and imparted what he before scarce dared to think on; but war and death had levelled all distinctions; and that he might partake

their sorrows, informed them, his heart had long, very long been attached to Isabella, the eldest daughter of the Baron Arville. Thus were these three new friends bound in bands of forrowing love, each recounting the superior excellencies of those they so much adored.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

 Oh, thou the ghost
Of my dead husband, miserably lost!
Oh, wretched husband, of a wretched wife,
Born with one fate to one unhappy life!
Thou to the dismal realms for ever gone,
And I abandon'd, desolate, alone!
An only child, once comfort of my pain!

Pope's *Iliad*.

On the sword points of cruel Romans slain.
My sisters two are gone

JULIUS, now at liberty, having little
at present to do in public affairs, was
determined to appropriate most of his
time to the lovely Alice and her son.
The child grew both in beauty and
stature; Ellen had become his tutor;
and never did she love her brother

Edwin with more fraternal affection than she did this lovely child, whose every action spoke the father he had lost. She anticipated the joy of delivering him to the arms of his mother, as also the hope of his making glad the hearts of the baron and baroness Arville in their declining years, by restoring to Britain, the name and person of one of his beloved sons. Often would she sit with her eyes fixed on him till tears of tenderness fell; which became not Leod. Alice had in a small degree noticed her, and would sometimes name a piece she wished to hear performed. Julius and Ellen were equally rejoiced, but Ellen had all the merit. She had had several opportunities of applying the Druid's potion in her drink, and began seriously to depend on its success. She had borne the appearance and company

pany of Julius with less distraction than usual ; and though these symptoms were not so frequent as formerly, yet a fixed melancholy seemed to have taken possession of her, which, however, the power of harmony always attracted. She had frequently seen Edwin from the window of her room, which opened into a noble and spacious lawn, where all his hours of diversion, and which were various, were spent, on purpose to draw her attention ; but she heeded it not ; nor in the least ever noticed her son. She remained about the space of two years in this, and nearly the same situation. Ellen had long contemplated a wish to appear before her in her proper character, but the fear of disclosing her sex had hitherto prevented her. She however determined to advise with Julius, and hoped he would acquiesce. She accordingly thus spoke
him.

him. " You remember, doubtless,
" my lord, the request I made you,
" of taking with me of those things
" which were in my chamber at the
" castle of Arville, before our depar-
" ture." " I do well," said he;
" and it has frequently occurred to
" me, that I have not since heard of
" their destination." " That, my
" lord, is what I am going to com-
" municate, or rather to advise with
" you, as I thought a female appear-
" ance might interest our unhappy
" patient more, and trying some of
" the garments, I found I should not
" look despicable in them; and I
" really believe it might have a good
" effect; since the appearance of
" my sex may rather prejudice her
" against me. You may endeavour
" to make her believe you expect a
" female, who can equally use the in-
" struments as myself, and that you
" have

“ have business for which you must
“ remove me. I also will inform her
“ of my departure ; and it will be
“ necessary to remove the female,
“ who seems no favourite with her,
“ to another part, where she may not
“ recognize me in my new situation,
“ least a discovery of the deception
“ might cancel the confidence we
“ wish her to place in us ;” in reality,
Ellen feared a discovery, as the domestic, in her own times, well knew her : therefore it was absolutely necessary. Julius listened with delight to the plan of Ellen ; he esteemed her in a superior degree ; for in her present appearance he could scarcely refrain fearing her as a rival ; her youth and extraordinary beauty might well warrant such fears ; and he gladly consented to her apparent change of sex. He lost no time in arranging
their

their proceedings. He informed Judith, the domestic, that he had another person to succeed her with Alice, and gave her a much superior appointment at a house distant from that they now inhabited; a handsome present effectually secured her, and she was ready to remove whenever called upon. Ellen took a formal leave of the household, and was followed by the good wishes of all. By Julius's assistance the clothes were conveyed to a distant part of Rome, where he himself attended to witness the metamorphoses. When Ellen was properly equipped in the habiliments of her sex, and was announced by the name of Eglantine, her appearance astonished and charmed; and had her voice not betrayed the supposed Leod, Julius had been perfectly deceived. He was however intirely satisfied at
her

her change, as the appearance of Eg-lantine had every charm to please ei-ther sex ; and though he rather feared the beauty and youth of Leod, his confidence was so great in him, in the change of sex, that he did not fear the discovery of himself to Alice, and he was bound in real bonds of friendship for Ellen in either character. He conducted her to Alice ; and in the way paid almost as many gallant compliments as if he had been assured of her sex, declaring, next to Alice, she had the most perfect appearance of feminine beauty he had ever beheld. Alice was sitting pensive and melancholy on the floor of her room, when Julius entering, led in the lovely Ellen, in all her native charms. He addressed her in the most respectful manner, and raising her from the floor, introduced Ellen to her. She
cast

cast a scrutinizing look on her, and with a scream fell senseless in his arms. Julius was alarmed, Ellen appeared to be so, but in fact, her heart leaped for joy at the idea of being recollected. The usual methods were some time used in vain; but an opportunity presenting itself at so favourable a juncture, induced Julius to open a vein, and which in a short time restored Alice to life. She again looked wistfully at Ellen, and wringing her hands, sat down the monument of silent grief. Julius tried every method to sooth the apparent agonies of her soul without effect. Ellen made signs for him to retire; and, with other assistance, put the unhappy fair one to bed. She suffered herself quietly to undergo the necessary preparations, still looking earnestly at Ellen, but without speaking.

ing. When she seemed somewhat composed, Ellen ordered her assistant into another apartment, and kneeling down at her side, she silently invoked the Supreme Disposer of all events, to assist her endeavours at the present critical moment. She had reason to believe her prayers were heard. Alice looked at her with a more softened countenance than she had ever assumed, since her unfortunate malady, and faintly exclaimed, "Dear image
" of my once, my much loved sister!" and clasping her hands with a most fervent energy, continued, "Would
" to Heaven thou wert her indeed;
" but she has been long numbered
" with the dead, and happy with my
" Edwin!" Ellen seized the moment to assure her it was she herself; and endeavoured to embrace her; but Alice immediately fell into the most
frantic

frantic exclamations, calling on her Edwin's spirit to revenge her wrongs. Ellen was under the necessity of calling in her assistant, and confining Alice to her bed; she found it equally necessary to inform Julius of as much as she thought proper of their interview; telling him of her supposing her like a sister she once had; but reserving her answers to herself. Julius concurred with Ellen in hoping her reason began to dawn, though deeply obscured at the present; and Ellen soon returned with her lute, which again soothed the lovely maniac. Ellen feared to make further acknowledgement of herself, till time should develope and remove the dreadful bandage from the intellects of Alice. She therefore determined never to notice what Alice said, unless she asked an answer which appeared reasonable.

reasonable. Ellen sung, and played on the harp and lute every air and ditty that they had sung or played together; and Alice seemed composed for several months, often talking of the dead Edwin and Ellen; but Ellen heeded it not. Alice would sometimes shed showers of tears. Julius was frequent at their concerts, if they might be so called, and even assisted at them himself. Alice showed neither disgust nor pleasure at his presence, which elated him beyond expression. Ellen acquitted herself to admiration, and grew daily in the esteem of this generous Roman. Young Edwin had now been long kept from her sight, and improved daily; his person, as has been observed, the counterpart of his father; his mind blended with all the softness and natural vivacity of his mother—
his

his faculties began to expand, and every instruction given was learnt with avidity—Ellen adored him—Julius was never happy from him, unless in those moments he spent with his mother, and he anticipated his future years with pleasure, when he might become his more useful friend.

JULIUS proposed an excursion, partly by sea and partly by land, which Ellen very readily agreed to; and she asked Alice her opinion, but received no answer. Preparation was immediately made, and a magnificent carriage was so contrived as to carry them all, except Edwin, who was put into the hands of a tutor; and with a large retinue they set out, Alice suffering herself to be led quietly, wherever Ellen conducted her, but still continuing silent, and often bitterly weeping.

ing. Ellen had constantly applied the Druid's remedy ; and to its power was the present favourable, though slow progress in her disorder attributed. They continued travelling, by easy journeys, till they arrived at the sea side, where they took ship for Spain. Every elegance and magnificence which could be displayed were not wanting to tempt the eye, or to gratify the most luxurious taste, and the most soothing harmony was added to ravish the ear, but yet Alice was inattentive, and calm ; appearing at times to listen to the conversation of those who happened to be present, and which was various, but she never joined in it. Their voyage was most agreeable ; and when in Spain, every pleasure was sought, and obtained. Alice still suffering Ellen to conduct her in whatever manner she chose.

Julius

Julius was in all their parties, but at no time did she pay the least attention to him; yet was his ardent love unabated. He viewed her always with delight; but when she accompanied Ellen with her voice, which she frequently did, he was intranced, would look, at a respectful distance, on her, till the tears rolled down his cheek. Ellen really esteemed, and sincerely pitied him. They made a stay of some months in Spain, and from thence proceeded to Venice, where they continued about three months more, and enjoyed; if so it might be called, all the pleasures which abound there. From thence they crossed again the sea, and entered Asia, where Julius had an embassy from Rome, in which he succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations, and much to the satisfaction

tion of his country; it being finished, he determined to enlarge his tour through Asia, himself and Ellen admiring all the various changes which they witnessed in every place through which they passed, and adoring the Supreme Creator in all his works. Ellen's heart, however, yearned after the young Edwin; and a desire to see her parents, made her wish to land on the British shore. She once hinted it to Julius, but he declined. "Gladly
" would I attend you to Britain, could
" I reinstate Alice in her right; more
" especially, would she there receive
" my eternal vows of lasting love:
" but this I swear, in the presence of
" both you and Heaven, should she
" be restored to her senses, even if
" she would drive me for ever from
" her presence, never to force her
" will; if she cannot give me a
VOL. I. G " heart,

“ heart, whole and full of love, I
“ would not accept it on the score of
“ gratitude. I will restore her to her
“ house whenever she can be de-
“ clared convalescent; but her Ed-
“ win must be mine!” Ellen, if she
before esteemed, now loved Julius for
the nobleness of his heart and senti-
ments.

EVERY day now gave fresh hopes of
Alice's recovery. She began, by de-
grees, to chuse her food, and eat with
an appetite; also would solicit a walk,
and name a place; would sometimes
talk of Britain, but it always affected
her to tears; and no one pursued the
subject: but what most surprized
them, and left them in doubt of her
recovery, was the intire silence she
had observed respecting her child;
of, and to her husband she often ap-
peared

peared to talk; and Ellen really believed a supernatural appearance of him, and often envied Alice that weak consolation. They made the tour of Asia; and once more, after an absence of near two years, revisited Rome. Julius was received with great honours by the senate, for the service he had rendered in Asia, and was again intrusted with an important negotiation to Syria, to be entered on early in the ensuing year, this was near its close. Ellen and Alice were to be again the partners of his voyage.

EDWIN astonished them with his growth and progress during their absence; and Ellen wished never more to part with him; her love, if possible, still increasing, and her brother rising hourly to her view. It was still determined to keep him from his mother's

ther's sight, unless she should make mention of his name. The winter was spent much better than any former, and every day was big with the pleasing expectation of her full recovery. An important crisis to introduce her child had always been anticipated and some times tried, but had never had the desired effect. His infant appendages were not laid aside, and the strong resemblance he bore his father, left Ellen every thing to hope. A British dress had been prepared, the more to favour his appearance, and himself had been taught to call her by the endearing name of mother.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Sudden

They start, shook from their tender trance; and
haste

To seek for glory in their country's cause.
Wisdom and friendly talk successive stole
Their hours away: while in the dreary cell,
Not such as wintry storms on mortals shed
Oppressing life; but lovely, gentle, kind;
And full of every hope, and every joy.

THOMSON.

DURING this interval, the Baron-
Arville had still concealed his place of
retirement, visiting the three forlorn
friends every day for a long series, and
had at last endeavoured to persuade
Raymond to travel, as he was now
spending a valuable life quite useless,

It was long, very long, before this advice made any impression on him, as he had given up the world; but the baron appearing to them less frequent than usual, and his looks apparently much colder, began to touch the heart of Raymond. "Alas," would he say, "venerable man, shall I lose your favour, which is dearer to me than life? Shall I forfeit your esteem to live inactive? No! I will forego all my own desires, to conciliate the friendship of the Baron Arville." He consulted his friend Leodine, and his sister Edith, who were very much against a separation; but Leodine determined to follow the fortunes of his friend. Edith was inconsolable. The baron happening at this juncture to make his appearance, and hearing the resolution of two so dear to him, embraced them with tears

tears of affection. " My dear sons,
" for now you prove yourselves so
" indeed ! you little know the love I
" bear you, if you suppose for a mo-
" ment my wishes for your departure
" were on a selfish account: reasons
" most weighty are yet enveloped in
" mystery : I cannot, dare not at pre-
" sent, unfold them ; but I hope,
" earnestly hope, we shall not be long
" ere we meet in joy to part no more.
" I depend much on your assistance,
" wherever chance may lead ; and I
" could wish your tour might be Rome :
" but I can add no more. Go, my
" children ; be happy in each other's
" company ; and in the adventures
" you meet, remain firm and true.
" Edith shall be my daughter and my
" care ; Heaven be praised, I can, and
" am able to protect her. But at pre-
" sent you must put yourselves under

“ the divine protection, and a strong
“ presentiment gives me inexpressi-
“ ble hopes of your returning soon to
“ bless my declining years, and to
“ close my eyes in peace.” Ray-
mond and his friend were much af-
fected; they promised him to obey
his fatherly injunctions; and exhorted
Edith to comfort her father, as they af-
fectionately termed him, and to cherish
those hopes she had heard him utter.
Edith replied, she would exert her abi-
lities for the baron’s comfort; and
would endeavour to partake his hopes.
The baron took leave for the night;
promising in the morning to bid them
adieu, and to provide for the care of
Edith. He departed, and the night
by the friends was spent in bewailing,
or paying a tribute of grief for their lost
loves, and performing a solemn dirge
to their memories. The baron arrived
early,

early, and found them unrefreshed. He guessed in part their grief; but little knew the depth of their despair. He presented Raymond and Leodine each with a ring of great value, and hurried their departure. They took an affectionate leave of Edith, of the baron, and the Druid, who had accompanied him to take a farewell, and to bestow his benediction. He also gave them some sovereign herbs as antidotes against poison, or the bites of noxious animals; and equipping themselves, after the manner of the times, mounted their steeds, and hastened from the sight of their humble cottage and their friends, Edith following them with her eyes till they were lost on the distant hills.

DEEPLY affected at the loss of her brother and friend Edith retired, and

G 5

indulged

indulged for a time her grief in tears. The baron saw her distress, and rightly judged they would relieve the sorrows of her mind. The worthy Druid and himself walked for a time, till they were fearful the excess of her grief might have a fatal effect, or at least injure her health; they therefore sought her, and desired her to take some refreshment, which she readily complied with. The baron then, putting on a jocular air, asked her, if she would lodge him with her, or retire with him to his concealment? Edith blushed. The Druid gravely repeated the question. Edith could not answer. "I am become, my dear Edith," said the baron, seriously, "your natural protector: I am your father: look on me as such, and till the return of Leodine, your brother also. I therefore expect you, not with parental tyranny, but with
" paternal

“ paternal love, to accompany me.
“ I shall there entertain you in a way
“ you little think of, and in return
“ I require from you filial affection.” Edith curtsied respectfully; but her full heart could give no utterance to her lips; she knelt, and kissed with fervor the hand of the baron, who himself was moved to tears; and the Druid was not unaffected. The baron prepared for his departure, and Edith was ready to attend him. They left the cottage, and ere night arrived at the recess. The baroness and Isabella were waiting to receive their welcome guest, according to the promise of the baron; and perhaps no surprize ever equalled that of Edith, on her entering it, to meet the lady of the baron, and that daughter for whom her brother had so long sighed in vain, and lamented as dead.

Her astonishment had sealed her lips ; and tears of joy streamed copiously from her eyes. They embraced her in the most cordial manner ; no superiority appeared ; nor would they suffer her to behave as an inferior. The joy she experienced at this pleasing moment, removed at once that load of grief which overwhelmed her, and the society of a lovely female added to their family, gave new life to the baroness and Isabella, especially of that one to whom they were indebted for the life of the baron. They had long loved her, from the baron's report, and now absolutely idolized her. The good old Leonard was likewise enraptured with the favour of his master, and the baron was delighted with the joy he observed on all their countenances. The baron had introduced Edith as a daughter, and
joining

joining their hands, said to Isabella,
" Here, my child, receive another
" Ellen; she is worthy all your love;
" and to her I owe what you owe to
" me, life; therefore she is my more
" than daughter. Her brother will
" I hope, ere long, join us with in-
" creasing happiness, and with him
" my son Raymond, the partner of
" his journey." Edith secretly wished
Leodine had known of Isabella's safety;
and the most lively hope pervaded her
breast, that the baron could not re-
fuse the hand of Isabella to him, since
he had acknowledged him as a son;
and was constantly repeating the ob-
ligation he was under to him for the
preservation of his life, and the ten-
der care they had bestowed, for so
long a period, to restore him to health,
all which had so happily been accom-
plished. The first evening was spent,

as may be supposed, in recounting their different adventures ; all which surprized and astonished each other. The privacy of their retreat, and its situation, with what related to the castle, to Ellen, and to Alice, were as yet ordered to be closely observed ; and it was a restraint on the ladies to conceal from Edith any circumstance, especially as she had been so singularly beneficial to them ; but it was the baron's order ; and the baron was positive. They retired to rest, Isabella and Edith sharing the same bed ; and a friendship, strong and lasting as death, was cemented the first hour of their acquaintance. Edith, at all opportunities, spoke in rapturous praise of her brother Leodine. Isabella knew him but little, yet through gratitude was strongly attached to him. They slept not much the first night,
and

and rose early to partake the refreshing air at the mouth of the cave, before the danger of being seen commenced. Leonard had disposed to some merchants, at a distance from Arville Castle, many of those jewels brought by Ellen, and they had lately enjoyed the necessaries and comforts of life.

DURING the absence of Ellen from the castle, Leonard and the baron had made frequent nocturnal visits; they wanted the comforts of beds; and finding things in general in the apartments as when left by them, the castle free from inhabitants, the garrison alone being left, and those in a distant part from the apartments, had ventured to sleep in those they formerly occupied, and which they continued to do some time: but on an
alarm

alarm being given by sound of trumpet once in the dead of night, they either thought themselves discovered, or that the Romans were returning, and determined to risk no more their lives in sleep. They never knew the cause of the alarm, as every thing appeared in the same state, and all remained quiet; but they rightly imagined as Providence had so miraculously put it in their power, they had a right to embrace the opportunity of removing to their recess, those things which they were in need of. They accordingly lost no time; and procured four beds, and every convenient accommodation they required, with all their clothing, which remained untouched; their lute and harp also was considered as necessary to their happiness, and saving the want of the glorious luminary of the day, they found themselves

selves as comfortable as the circumstances of the times and their situation would admit. Daily with adoration to the Supreme Giver of all, did they pour their thankful songs of gratitude for their singular preservation, while so many noble families had been annihilated. The Romans had overlooked, or being unacquainted with the British method of stowing their wines, had not observed a cellar, in which the baron had no small stock, and which to their unutterable astonishment Leonard found untouched. This was joy indeed inexpressible, as it was not easy to be procured free from discovery, and called forth all their thanks and praise to the Universal Father of every good, and who will not forsake those that trust in him. It took some time to remove this precious store, and contributed

tributed much to their continual comfort. Edith was astonished to find all things in such neatness and order, and much more to see a table decently stored in so dreary a place; but to her the mystery yet remained; and Edith had too much good sense to show an inquisitive mind. They passed their days in harmony and improving conversation; the evenings in cherishing each other's hopes; their nights in dreaming of future felicity.

Thus passed their time agreeably, but almost an entire sameness prevailed. The ladies indeed found employment in providing a present for their friends, and each strove which should produce the most exquisite piece of embroidery; but emulation in them did not produce envy; and the

the longer they lived, the more they endeared each other. The baroness shared her affections equally, and frequently declared she looked on Edith as her first born ; and jocosely would observe, she ought to be her favourite, as she had restored a long lost husband to her arms. Isabella acknowledged the justness of the remark, and would freely yield all the privileges of her birth right. Edith was often overcome with their generous love, and could only answer such sentiments with tears of gratitude. The baron would amuse them sometimes in repeating the history of his youth ; his love for the baroness, and the difficulties he encountered to win her. Sometimes he would recount the battles he had been engaged in, the many fearful escapes he had had, and the numerous armies he had
seen

been destroyed; the many changes his country had undergone in a few years; and in short, the history of his life, and that of Britain—recounted the prodigious and gallant exploits of the British chiefs, and forgot not when a Roman had performed his duty to his country and exercised the rights of humanity. Some there were of whom he spoke in the highest strains of panegyric, others he named that were not fit to be ranked even with brutes, and to whose more than brutal rage, the female part of the Britons shamefully fell a sacrifice. Sometimes Leonard and himself would play on warlike instruments the various songs of battle, and sometimes the lute and harp, in gentler notes, to the angelic voices of the ladies. Thus happily, or at least contentedly, passed a space of two years, Edith still not knowing their
their

their vicinity to the castle, and always praying for the return of her brother and Raymond.

Edith at length ventured in confidence to disclose the love of Leodine to Isabella, who heard it with some surprise, but without anger, and thought she could prefer the love of Raymond to any other; but, as before observed, her love was not of an ardent or extraordinary nature, the vicissitudes of her life, the tender care of her mother, and want of society, had shut her heart against any propensity of a more tender nature. The arrival of her father had also called for a division of her affection; and till she heard of Raymond at the cottage of Edith, had not once thought of love; she even then loved him as the preserver of her father, and in that light
Leodine

Leodine had an equal, if not superior right to her ceaseless love and gratitude. Now, however, she thought of what Edith had imparted; and strongly suspected an attachment betwixt her and Raymond. "Forbid it Heaven! forbid it gratitude," she silently ejaculated; "Isabella may be the sister, but never will be the rival of her beloved Edith."

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

— — — Would'st thou shudder?
Crimes unheard of now await thine ear,
And try thy nature, perhaps, 'twere better
Mifs'd, or ne'er been told. Such tales of horror
Thrill the feeling breast, and rend the heart-
strings.
Still good oft times from evil springs. So now!

RAYMOND and Leodine were now pursuing their journey, and determined to visit Rome, according to the desire of the baron, but without any idea of what service it could render him; so closely had he kept his secret. They proposed making their journey as far about as possible, to divert their time. Raymond hoped indeed to see Julius, for whom he had
an

an high esteem. They were traversing a large forest near the close of night, when the most dismal shrieks drew their attention; and they could not trace from whence they came: they followed their sounds till they were bewildered by the darkness of the night. The most profound silence reigned through the vast expanse of heaven; not a star to direct their way. Horrible shrieks still interrupted their course; they were now in real fear, lest they should not be able to render any assistance to the objects of distress, which had alarmed them, nor provide for their own safety. They could not conceal their sentiments from each other, and were devising means for keeping together, when on a sudden they heard some voices, and immediately found themselves surrounded by a number of armed

armed men, who soon informed them they should be lodged in a place of safety. They drew their sabres, and dealt furiously about them, but discovered, by lights which the ruffians had brought, that their numbers were very strong, and the horribleness of their language left no room to doubt they were a banditti of robbers; that doubtless, the cries they heard proceeded from some who had fell victims to their power. They however were resolved to fight for their lives, which they did; endeavouring, at the same time, to make a retreat; but that was impossible; and they, after each killing several of them, were overpowered by numbers, who with dreadful imprecations tore them from their horses, and conveyed them to a horrible cavern, where they pushed them in with the most infernal rage, and tying their

hands and feet, threw them on the cold ground; happy, they thought themselves for a moment, that they yet existed; but recollection soon set all the horrors of their situation full in their view. The night was but a dreadful prelude to the succeeding day. Their dungeon was opened at the dawn by six ruffians, who appeared armed at all points, and who, in the most vociferous manner, demanded their names, qualities, and where they were bound to, on pain of immediate death. They gave them a true account of their names; the business on which they were going, they said, was to find employ in which they might be useful to their country. (Reserving all accounts respecting the baron as improper, and at present needless.) They then left some bread and water, and again closed the door with

with massy bars, after untying their hands. They made a sorrowful repast, dreading more than death a separation, and the grief of those most dear to them. They failed not to supplicate the Supreme Being to protect them in this important moment; but, alas, they were to undergo misfortunes which the worthy baron little foresaw when he so eagerly pressed their departure. In a few hours their keepers returned, leading in a man of a noble mein, but much debilitated, with a sternness in his look sufficient to chill the most undaunted soul; a seat was brought, and he was placed with great form in the dungeon; lights were introduced, and they were represented as cavaliers, who had dared to encroach on his territories, with a view of discovering some noise which they had heard, and which they ought

not to have noticed ; concerning which they also overheard their intentions ; and as it was against their laws and customs to permit any with impunity to make excursions on that forest, they demanded of him, as their king, and judge, what punishment should be inflicted on them ? Their king, as he was called, and who indeed had outward dignity sufficient for the title, now ordered them to speak for themselves, and explain their intentions, as they must by this time know, that they had trespassed on his territories, and for which thousands had suffered death ; the noise they meant to succour was from some in their own situation, who had been guilty of the same enormities, and were now suffering for their temerity ; he however found himself prepossessed in their favour from their youth and appearance, and
would

would give them this day to consider of a proposal which would save them from the punishment due to the heinousness of their crimes, and was as follows; they had a regular community, were governed by their own laws, had all the necessaries, and some luxuries of life; they had their women, and children, and should doubtless find some matches for them, which would do them honour; they would each have an appointment worthy a cavalier's notice, and might pass the remainder of their days in comfort, undisturbed by those numerous broils and changes which continually were harrassing the people of Britain. "I spent my youth," continued he, "in the service of my country, but found it unable either to reward my courage, or give me a stability in it; I therefore left the

“ world in disgust, and retired here
“ with my wife, my family, and several
“ others of my neighbours, who
“ joined in my scheme, and we now
“ amount to many hundreds. We
“ accept those whose countenance we
“ approve as citizens, on certain restrictions
“ and conditions, which, if any refuse,
“ they never have the offer repeated;
“ and some are now suffering all the
“ bitterness of woe for refusing it. You have,
“ as I before observed, found favour in
“ our eyes; and therefore we are willing
“ to give you this day and night for
“ your acceptance of our boon; or refusal,
“ which hurls you to misery. I seldom
“ condescend to persuade, but a partiality
“ in your favour has made me disclose to
“ you what I never did to any other
“ previous to their inauguration.” Raymond

mond attempted to speak; but the dignified chief, waving his hand, arose, and said, "I do not expect your answer till to-morrow morning. Consult your own welfare, and become my friends. Farewell!" He was then led back and his seat removed in the same manner in which he entered, and the doors were again fastened on them; but one soon returned, and brought some fruit, and wine, and immediately departed.

THEY were now to enter on their consultation and determination. "Alas!" said Leodine, "our fate seems to be to mix our despair among those unhappy mortals which innocently drew us into this terrible snare! What are these who boast of their community, but a banditti, who

H 4

" live

“ live by plundering those unhappy
“ wretches who inadvertently pass
“ this dreadful forest? and from which
“ no one returns to warn the world
“ of its terrific horrors !” “ Ah ! my
“ friend,” replied Raymond, “ your
“ conjectures I believe are truly just.
“ Would to Heaven I had left my
“ Leodine to have been still a son to
“ the Baron Arville ! My own life is
“ as a dust in the balance ; I value it
“ not, unless it be to administer that
“ comfort to others, which I am in-
“ capable of receiving. As for you,
“ I have torn you from a sister, who
“ loves, and is beloved equally ; but
“ for me, I am a vagabond and a fu-
“ gitive. I, perhaps, deserve my
“ fate in resisting the will of Heaven,
“ in still cherishing and harbouring
“ in my breast a passion, which it is
“ impossible to gratify, since the object
“ is

“ is no more. I see, I feel its incon-
“ sistency, and would with joy meet
“ death in any form; but for you,
“ my friend, my brother, my heart
“ feels unutterable woe. Oh! gen-
“ tle spirit of my Ellen, hover over
“ us; protect Leodine, and restore
“ him to his peaceful habitation, to
“ sooth your beloved parent: and if
“ intercession in a world of spirits can
“ avail mortals who are here, rend
“ my heart-strings, and remove me
“ from this scene of carnage, for such
“ I fear to find it!” Raymond would
still have continued, but Leodine
embracing him, said, “ Fear not, my
“ Raymond; my sister will not want
“ a protector, nor the baron a son.
“ That power that has removed us
“ will doubtless provide new friends
“ for those so dear to us; and for wise
“ and good ends, if it be our lot to
“ perish, let us perish as becomes

H 5

“ men,

“ men, and Britons; nor fear the
“ vengeance that lately sounded in
“ our ears.” This energetic speech
roused Raymond from his melancholy
reverie; and they immediately de-
termined to let their answer be firm
and manly: not to show a fear at their
power, nor to provoke it, with ill-
judged speeches. They tasted their
fruit and wine, and found themselves
much refreshed; they eat and drank
of it as a gift of Heaven, nor gave a
thought of the manner in which it had
been procured.

TOWARDS night their door opened,
and a man brought a bundle of straw,
maliciously observing, it was an un-
usual thing to treat their prisoners
thus: they, however, returned their
devout thanks to that Power who had
permitted them to grant this com-
fortable

fortable indulgence, and recommending themselves to the same divine protection, laid themselves down, and enjoyed a repose, little expected, in the apparent shades of death. The morning was far advanced, when the same ruffians who had conducted their king to the dungeon appeared, to conduct them to him; they were untied, and brought to a spacious cavern, which received light from the ground above them, where sat, in kingly state, this veteran in iniquity, and who, relaxing from that severity he had assumed on his first appearing, asked how they had passed the night? They replied, that they had enjoyed a good repose, and returned him thanks for the indulgence they had experienced. He then proceeded to ask what was the result of their deliberations to the generous proposal

he had offered them. Raymond, with a superior dignity peculiar to himself, replied, "Dread fire, in
" your hands undoubtedly are our
" lives. We are Britons, and cavaliers, and shall be equally glad to
" accept any proposal or commission
" we, with honour to our characters, can accede to; but, you will
" recollect, sir, you did not inform
" us in what way we were to apply
" our services to the public weal.
" Your goodness will inform us of
" those particulars. We want no
" further time to determine, than you
" will kindly use in explaining to us
" those things you require, and those
" restrictions you before mentioned."

Dunstan, for that was the name of this self-created king, now knit his brows, and had resumed that severity which had given place to a milder aspect

aspect on their first appearance, and sternly asked, "Do you suspect my honour, that you will need such explanations? But to show you that I design not to deceive, I will order some of my people to show you our boundaries, our families, our employments, and above all our punishments." Raymond and Leodine bowed respectfully; and a cup of wine with bread was brought to them, of which Dunstan also partook, it was of the richest flavour, and the cup of massy silver. None sat in his presence; and he lamented his infirmities that he could not attend them in person; "but remember," says he, "Life, and worse than death is before you. I intreat you to become my friends; my people shall all bow in submission to your wills when you have passed

“ passed your proper inauguration ;
“ your family (to Raymond, he said)
“ requires it ; I knew your ancestors ;
“ I revered their virtues, and their
“ valour, and I respect you for their
“ sakes ; advise well with your hearts ;
“ nor give me cause to execute that
“ which will give me sincere grief,
“ but which, the being and welfare
“ of my state compels me to. Go,
“ with an unprejudiced mind ; and
“ remember, no state, whether great
“ or small, can hold together unless
“ crimes are punished, and made a
“ lasting example to deter others
“ from the folly of their ways. If
“ you accept my offered friendship,
“ return hither ; if not, you neither
“ see my face, nor peace again !”

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Their wraths are kindled, and their souls in flames.

In vain to view performed the direful deed.

The wondering captives gaze with care oppress'd,

And chilling horrors freeze now each sad breast.

Oh, could these arms, in silence they rejoin'd,

From that foul bulk dislodge thy bloody mind!

That he when living wretched men obey'd,

Should want in death a shroud to grace his shade!

HOMER'S Oddysey.

RAYMOND and Leodine were now led from the presence of Dunstan, and introduced to a set of men they had not before seen, who received the orders of their king, to show every particular belonging to their society
or

or community. They immediately mounted them on horses, and a dozen of them, as a guard, well armed, surrounded, and conducted them full gallop round the forest, which was of an immense size. This, they told them, were the boundaries. A road at the extremity was all which travellers might pass in safety; all who overstepped those bounds were lawful prizes to their king, with whatever treasure they possessed; but the road itself was sacred to whoever kept in it; their laws not permitting any to be molested on it. This done, the immensity of the forest having employed the most of the day, and darkness beginning to cover the face of the sky, they returned, and were conducted to their dungeon. Clean straw, and some roasted venison, with wine, were placed for their refresh-

refreshment, and they were fastened up for the night.

THEY had observed the hopelessness of their situation, being informed, that guards were regularly employed to watch the motions of every traveller, so that however numerous they might be, or well armed, none were able to escape, if they committed the trespasses above mentioned, not a single instance to the contrary ever having occurred. They however determined to suffer all the horrors of torture, rather than unite themselves in so infamous a society; but resolved, at the same time, to suffer themselves to be shown the full extent of this abode of iniquity, before they informed them of their resolution. The night was spent in prayer and watching, least another together

together might not be permitted; and at the morning dawn they were again brought out, but their attendants were now on foot, were also well armed. They were brought to a near part of the forest, when they were surprized at a number of men, regular in size, uniform in dresses of blue and gold, with arms of glittering steel, and armour of exquisite beauty; their helmets adorned with large feathers, making a noble and martial appearance. Dunstan was already there, in a car elegantly decorated, and they performed their military evolutions with the greatest ease and exactness, both on horse and foot, with a band of martial music; the whole forming a sight, in any other situation than that of our unfortunate friends, truly grand and pleasing. This over they returned by the same way,
till

till they reached a place which had the appearance of a bower, but in the midst of which they descended by steps neatly cut in the earth, and winding round several times till they arrived at the bottom, when their astonishment was greatly increased, to see a number of small, but neat cottages, well formed, and seemingly well furnished, but no sign of inhabitants. They were told, those men whom they saw armed in the field occupied these habitations, and were not yet returned. They ascended by a different way that led to a castle, which had all the appearance of ancient grandeur, but was now defaced by time. This, they informed them, was a castle of great note, but by some fatality was much troubled by supernatural appearances, and therefore used by them only as a prison for those

those who would not consent to belong to their society ; where they were not only tormented by their means, but in constant terror from the horrors of those spectres which continually alarmed them. They showed them a sight of some of the unhappy sufferers, who were indeed monuments of unutterable misery.

THIS dreadful sight of their future abode thrilled indeed their souls with horror ; but their native and undaunted courage did not shrink from it, as their liberty was to be purchased by becoming partners in such atrocious crimes. They were led from that scene of wretchedness, to one quite opposite in its effects, but equally disgusting to souls as chaste as theirs—a number of women, beautiful as the sylvan or fabled nymphs and
and

and graces, sporting with every wanton glance and attitude in a spacious bath, unheedful of those eyes from whom modesty would have shrunk and stood appalled. Raymond and his friend turned aside from the unhallowed scene, while their conductors told them, that any of those beautiful creatures would be for their pleasure. Raymond asked, "Who are they?" "There are some of them our children, whose beauty is deemed of too much consequence to be made the wife of one man. Those who are not possessed of those outward qualifications we marry as we can, among our own community, for the benefit of propagation, allowing those men, at the same time, the indulgence of beauty wherever they can make themselves agreeable. Others of them are children

“ children whom we take from their
“ parents when they trespass on our
“ bounds; and those, if handsome,
“ we train up with our own; if other-
“ wise, they take the same chance
“ with our other daughters. The
“ males we fortunately take, we bring
“ up among our own, and make no
“ distinction between them; but if
“ they are old enough to resist, they
“ share the fate of those of their pa-
“ rents who refuse to enlist under our
“ banners. Such are our laws re-
“ specting our women and captives.”

They then conducted them to a place,
where nought but darkness reigned,
through a passage into another bottom
or valley, whose top opened into the
forest, its edge surrounded by trees,
and where light was admitted; here
they beheld women and female chil-
dren in abundance; the women were
plain

plain both in habit and person, but none disagreeable; all employed in domestic duties; many of the children were beautiful as Eve has been represented, when she first came from the hands of her Divine Creator. "Alas!" sighed these friends, "to what intricate scenes of misery art thou reserved! Initiated in the depth of wickedness before thou canst form thyself one idea, much less to know the good from evil: unparalleled wretchedness, and woe extreme!"

NIGHT appearing, and being informed they had been shown all their laws and customs, they had only now to fix their resolution, and this night a further indulgence, was given for the purpose. They, as before, were shut in their dungeon; and a plentiful

tiful meal of venison, fruit, and wine, was set before them. Their determinations wanted no arguments; they were unanimously resolved to bear all the tortures in the power of those monsters to inflict, rather than sully their fame, or linger out their lives in professed villainy. During their supper, of which they eat heartily, all their fears were lest they should be separated. They were alarmed by a violent shouting, and the sounding of trumpets, which seemed, on close attention, to be some prisoners bringing in, and which proved but too true. They heard the clanging of massy doors, and the lamentations of both women and children.

THE following morning Raymond and Leodine were informed that they were going to inaugurate a prisoner into their community, which was
among

among those taken the preceding night, and that through favour of their prince they were to be witnesses of the ceremony. They bowed assent; and about noon their conductors opened the door of their cell and brought them to a field, in the middle of which an altar was raised, and seats placed in rows in manner of an amphitheatre, for the accommodation of a great number of auditors. On one side sat those women whose beauty we have before noticed; at their backs those who for themselves were fortunately not ranked among them, but were their servants. On the opposite side, on an elevated kind of throne sat their king, and around him those men who had made so martial an appearance in the field; the whole groupe formed a pleasing scene. Not so did it conti-

due. A number of men brought wood, and placed it on the altar. Our heroes were seated in a conspicuous part in front of it, and shortly after a man, who proved to be the prisoner for whom all this ceremony was performed, was brought forth, dressed in a white robe, with a civic crown on his brow, and after him the victim attended by a band performing a solemn dirge. But who can paint the horror, the surprize, and indignation of our friends, at a sight so contrary to every kind of society and humanity? In vain their indignation burnt their noble breasts, their hands were unequal to the task, which their hearts and courage would have prompted them to. Gladly, had they possessed their arms, would they have flown on those monsters, and died at least in the humane action of endeavouring

vouring to emancipate a fellow creature from the butchering hands of those infernal ruffians, one of whom, in the habit of a priest, made an oration, in which he applauded the virtues of this new member of their society, and declaiming in violent terms against the folly of the victim now going to suffer, who had had an equal chance of being admitted as any other, but his obstinate refusal had brought him to this crisis, in which the magnanimity of the other was now going to shine conspicuous. He asked the victim in a solemn tone, if he was not convinced, that their offers had been truly generous? He, in a manly tone, and with much dignity replied, that the only generosity he had experienced was at the present moment, when he was going to be released from those unparalleled sufferings

which he had so long undergone ; that he indeed returned them his grateful thanks for the mercy now granted him, which obliterated all remembrance of his former sufferings ; he wished only that all his companions in misery were going to share his happy fate, that so many united torments might be at once annihilated.—Dunstan gave a signal, which in a moment produced an order for him to hold his impious tongue ; and since he dared to recount his sufferings, they should be still continued ; and one less hardy should suffer in his stead. He was immediately hurried back ; and soon another victim made his appearance—a youth whose beauty and innocence would have arrested the pity of any but the monsters with which he had to do. The priest repeated partly what had been said to the other ; and the

the youth returned only his thanks for the present lenity. At a signal given, the executioner seized the lovely victim, and lanced each of his arms; the blood was caught in vessels of silver, and the new member of this infernal society was immediately sprinkled over with it. The unfortunate youth beginning to faint, was placed in the middle of the pile, which being instantly set fire to, soon released him from the vale of misery and woe; his soul disdained to complain; and he was seen supplicating with a serene countenance, the Supreme Being, till the falling fire buried him from observation, and proclaimed him no more! The wretch, for so we must call him, who was now a part of this horde of villains, was compelled to swear, by all the torments that hell itself could invent, to be faithful;

and though he performed it, it was evidently with fear and trembling. His robe of blood was taken from him, and he was dressed en militaire, and conducted to the king of monsters, who embraced him, and placed him, at his right hand, in a car which conveyed them to the field, in all the pomp of majesty; a band playing martial music before them; and they, lastly, in honor of their new companion, performed their various evolutions. Raymond and Leodine, under a guard, were permitted to see the rejoicings of this day; they consisted of various manly sports, which divested of these scenes of horror, were really pleasing; they were, indeed, contrived to captivate the affections of those women only, whose beauty intitled them to universal admiration; as they alone were permitted to join the
cheerful

cheerful throng; and were all drawn up in order for the hero to fix his choice on those he most admired. The day was spent in all the voluptuousness that fancy could invent, in dancing, and every delicacy with which Britain abounded, with wines of the choicest flavour, and fruits of every nation, which was a part of their plunder. The evening conducted the new-made villain to an elegant tent, spread and lighted with splendor, in the field; and two of the most beautiful females attended his introduction to this hellish society, that it might be concluded in the sight of all. Raymond and Leodine were re-conducted to their cell; and their answer being required, they gave it, with every sensation of horror at what they beheld; and waited each moment the signal to commence their sufferings.

At the end of the year 1793
the British government had
been for some time in a
state of great anxiety. The
war which had been declared
in 1793, and which had
been continued with great
vigour, had now become
a source of great trouble
to the British government.
The French government had
been for some time in a
state of great anxiety. The
war which had been declared
in 1793, and which had
been continued with great
vigour, had now become
a source of great trouble
to the British government.
The French government had
been for some time in a
state of great anxiety. The
war which had been declared
in 1793, and which had
been continued with great
vigour, had now become
a source of great trouble
to the British government.

CHAP. XI.

Struck with unusual fears she trembling cries,
She faints, she falls, she lifts her weeping eyes.
What art thou? Say, from whence, from whom
you came,
Oh, more than human! tell thy race, thy name.
She saw, she knew him, and with eager pace
Clung to her long-lost son in sweet embrace.
Sad pleasing sight! with tears each eye run o'er,
And sobs of joy re-echoed more and more.

HOMER'S *Odyssey*.

RETURN we now to Ellen and her beloved Alice, who since we saw them, have made the tour of Syria, where Julius had finished his embassy with the same honors as before, and his affection for Alice continued no less than when she first captivated the

heart of the gallant Roman. She had had no raving or violent paroxysm of her disorder for a long time; but a stupor and melancholy still pervaded her, and nothing but the fascinating charms of Ellen's voice and finger had the least predominancy over her. During a performance she seemed always sensible of music's effects, but the instant of its stopping, her faculties appeared dead; and the same to every conversation, every sight, and every pleasure that their united efforts could produce, all failed in their desired purposes, and they returned to Rome in no better a situation than they left it. Indeed, at times, Ellen feared much for the intellects of Julius, as his imitation of her melancholy appeared to become almost realised: he would now and then address Ellen thus: "Oh, my friend,"
" had

" had Providence made you really
 " what you appear, your endeavours to
 " restore the senses of my Alice, and
 " your unremitted attention to me,
 " I believe, would, ere now, have
 " estranged my heart from this cold
 " and unfortunate beauty, and laid it
 " at your feet; but since it is not so,
 " help me still to hope and feed the
 " fond delusion of calling Alice mine,
 " that in a wife and friend I may
 " shine superior to the most mighty
 " monarch of the universe!" In this
 " and such like discourse passed their
 " time when together, but Ellen pined
 " for the British shore. She represented
 " to her mind's eye the castle, perhaps
 " neglected, perhaps inhabited by some
 " who had no claim, perhaps the
 " owner, if any existed, pining under
 " every hardship and want, and having
 " not where to lay their heads. Julius

returned

feared it not. " I left a guard sufficient for any thing but an open rebellion; and of such I have not heard. The mere hope of finding an owner would more than repay me the trouble of a journey; and if it will oblige Eglantine, as a friend, we will immediately prepare for a journey thither." Ellen was all gratitude, and expressed her thanks; assuring Julius that a strong presentiment in favour of the late inhabitants of that castle, would be to her sufficient reason to undertake even any difficulties to obtain so desirable an end. This was enough to stimulate Julius to order his equipage, and every necessary preparation for their journey. Ellen's ideas were elevated above herself, and the ascendancy she had over Julius made her desire nothing but an opportunity to present her father and mother

mother to him; yet she dare not own her sex; her heart was as warmly as ever attached to Raymond, and she was all desire to travel, hoping still to see one so much beloved. They were not tardy in their operations, and young Edwin was inraptured at the name of Britain; but Julius made him promise to return willingly with him to Rome. Edwin childishly promised every thing; and Ellen acquainted Alice with their intentions. She received it, as every other information, without the least alteration of countenance, or even noticing it.

ELLEN now thought to try one effort ere she left Rome. She had taught young Edwin a song with which his father used to entertain his mother in her retirement, and which she, before her malady, took a peculiar

liar pleasure in repeating ; but Ellen had always avoided it, though Alice frequently herself would tune it to her lute. She concealed Julius, and ordered Edwin to be introduced while herself was entertaining Alice. She had given her instructions how he was to act, and a servant brought him abruptly into the apartment. Ellen used every endearing word in her embracing him, as though she had not seen him, and after a little conversation she asked him to repeat such a song, he willingly obeyed, and clad as he was in his British dress for the first time, and being placed conspicuously in the sight of his mother, his voice and person except size being the exact image of his father, and singing that song of all others the most dear to her, was sufficient to rouse the senses, if the least atom remained,

mained, of the most obstinate maniac. He began. She had not apparently noticed the endearments of Ellen, but the voice was like an electric stroke; she started from her reverie, and with folded arms, listened to the youthful chaunter. The words caught her ear; and her eyes, for the first time, during her illness, were fixed on him as the only object of attraction. She listened with eagerness; and with her eyes devoured him in silence. What ecstasy did not Julius and Ellen feel at this important moment! Near the close of the song, which was sung in the most correct, and indeed manly manner, she sprung from her seat, and seized the child, calling him her Edwin, her husband, her long lost husband! "But, where, my love, hast thou been thus long; and in what fairy land to be thus diminutive?"

"or

" or has long weeping so injured my
" fight, that I see thus? Heaven
" preserve thee to me! Now never
" more shall the clang of arms drag
" thee from mine arms enfolded thus!
" Thou shalt live only on my bosom,
" as thou hast always done in my
" heart!" Here a most welcome
flood of tears interposed, and seemed
to ease her heart of loads of anguish!
The child was much affected as were
Ellen and Julius. He embraced her
in the most ardent manner, soothing
her tears, and telling her he was come
to make her happy. " Oh blissful
" day," cried she: - " but why did
" you so often come, and not suffer
" me to lay hold on you? Why so
" often converse with me, then draw
" yourself away? Then I saw you all
" perfect in your form as when you
" took me blushing to the altar, and
" called

" called me your's! Alas! my Ed-
" win, we have seen days and years
" of sorrow since that fatal parting!"
Ellen ventured to ask, " Had you any
" child?" Edwin caught the hint;
" You had a son, madam; may I in-
" treat you to know what became of
" him?" She put her hand to her
forehead, and seemed in a deep muse;
a fresh flood of tears interposed, and
she loudly sighing, cried, " Alas! I
" think I had: but the barbarians
" slew him before my face. I saw
" him no more: but he is happy."
" Indeed," cried Edwin, " so he is.
" Beloved by a mother so dear, so
" tender; see and receive your son,
" your long lost Edwin. I am that
" infant you supposed killed. I am
" he; embrace me as such, oh my
" dear, my much loved mother; em-
" brace, and love your son!" " What,
" oh

“ oh Heaven, have I done,” cried Alice, “ to become thus the sport of fortune? I flattered myself I had found my husband, and am told that what I have recovered is my son, whom I saw stabbed before mine eyes, and beheld his mangled body exhibited on the point of the sword! Why am I thus deceived? What profit will any receive by torturing my soul with doubts so dreadful?” Ellen replied, “ Dear lady, do not thus terrify yourself. Believe me, when I tell you, I have no interest in deceiving you: but that your belief on such positive facts would yield me the most exquisite pleasure that nature can bestow. I will assure you, this is your Edwin, your son; he was indeed wounded; but through the blessing of the Supreme was soon
“ restored.”

“restored.” “Why then,” she ex-
“claimed, “was I not permitted to
“nurse and enjoy the comfort a mo-
“ther feels in contributing to his
“welfare?” “A violent fit of ill-
“ness,” said Ellen, “prevented that
“happiness ; and you have been since
“travelling to recover the blessing of
“health, while the child has been
“tutoring and growing up to become
“the hope of your house, and your
“comfort!” “Ah!” cried Alice
vehemently, “ah! could I but cre-
“dit the tale! Recollection how-
“ever furnishes me with a proof, I
“shall not dare to doubt. I saw my
“husband, just before he was called
“to that fatal battle which, I have
“been told, cost him his life, fiercely
“attacked by a freebooter with a
“dagger, and which I thought pene-
“trated his breast: the violent im-
“pulse

“ pulse and agitation I was in, caused
“ me to affect my unborn child by
“ marking him on the breast with the
“ appearance of a dagger; if there-
“ fore this is my son, he has that in-
“ dubitable proof of his birth.” The
child immediately bared his breast to
his astonished mother; and that un-
deniable proof fully authenticated his
birth. The rapture of all parties is
undeforibable; and that of Alice un-
utterable. She clasped him to her
bosom: “ Thou art indeed my son,
“ son of my love! The image of thy
“ adored father. Oh, blessing su-
“ preme! Joy beyond expression!
“ Oh, my friends! for now I can call
“ you such, to whom shall I return my
“ thanks for this greatest of blessings,
“ unhoped, great as unexpected feli-
“ city? Ah, my Edwin, wert thou but
“ present, what joy could equal mine,
“ to.

“ to present to you this child, bloom-
“ ing as the spring, and possessing
“ thy every perfection !” Julius, by
an intimation from Ellen now entered, and Ellen presented him to her, both as the preserver of herself and child ; assuring her, that the castle of Arville was still preserved for her use, whenever she should be able to take its command, as mistress, by the same noble and generous patron. Alice with abundance of tears, returned him her warmest thanks for the blessing of her son’s preservation ; and would have inquired of many circumstances that now crowded into her imagination : but her friends saw its hurtful tendency, and begged her to retire to rest, and endeavour to compose the extraordinary hurry her spirits had undergone in the last hour. She was weak and faint, and readily complied,
if

if her son might accompany her. The child was equally ready to attend her : he felt all the filial tenderness for this dear, but unfortunate parent, that nature ever implanted in the human breast : he soothed, and endeavoured to lull her to rest by the soft melody of his voice, and Ellen had all the heart-felt pleasure of perceiving her efforts in his tuition had not been in vain, either as a son, or a scholar ; and young as he was, he possessed all the dignity of the house of Arville. Ellen had studiously taught him the family, the extent of their manor, their customs, and the affection that subsisted among every branch of the family, all of which Edwin venerated in a superior degree. He loved Julius, and called him father ; but Ellen's lessons, and a secret instinct made him wish to see England, and
Arville

Arville Castle. He grieved with Ellen at their dependence on Julius; but Ellen always suggested the hope that he might become the husband of Alice, and bind their gratitude in bonds of love: she therefore always encouraged him to call him father, and taught him the nature of their obligations to him for both life and every comfort they had experienced, since the unhappy destruction of their family. Edwin, with these instructions, was every way suited to the company of his mother. But alas, joy is often the harbinger of ill, as of good news; and the excess of it was more than her tender nature could sustain. She could not refrain from conversing with her son, nor conceal the strong emotions that had seized her soul. Her disorder seemed to return with unusual violence, such as threatened

threatened all their hopes of happiness to be near an end. Ellen however redoubled her attention, if possible; and being still in possession of some of the Druid's prescription, she faithfully administered it, and in a few days her ravings left her; but a fever of a dangerous tendency had seized her frame, and young Edwin by his close attention had nearly fell a victim to its baneful influence; Ellen and Julius also were in a similar situation: they, however, happily recovered, but not till Ellen's real sex was unavoidably known. She fell ill before Julius, who was in a singular dilemma how to act: he feared the deception might be a bar to his future happiness, and delicacy required attendants of a different sex: but he was soon undeceived himself, nor sorry he was; Ellen, in her ravings, frequently calling Alice her beloved

loved sister, Edwin her adored brother; spoke with such correctness of the house of Arville, and lamenting Raymond, and calling herself the hapless Ellen, that he began strongly to suspect what, on maturer consideration, he found absolute facts. He ordered the female domestic whom he had brought from Britain, and who had been discharged at the suit of Ellen, from attending Alice, to be instantly brought; and himself conducted her to the chamber of Ellen, where she instantly recognized the youngest daughter of the Baron Arville. Nothing could equal the astonishment of Julius at this unexpected discovery, yet he was no way displeased. He revered the name of Arville; and always intending to re-establish its house, was more than ever determined to fulfil his intention. He

watched over Ellen and Alice with the most tender solicitude; and anxiously waited the crisis of their disorder; though both seemed to grow worse. He felt the want of Ellen, both as to her advice and attention; but, alas! how little can human foresight avail against disease or death! Julius, with his unremitting attention to his fair invalids, caught the contagious infection; and long, very long was his life despaired of. Happy was it for the sisters, that they were in a state of insensibility to this additional affliction, as the bare idea of such a loss must have blasted all their hopes of future happiness. Julius was almost adored by the people of Rome, and Rome was ransacked, as it were, to aid his recovery. His disorder was watched by the greatest men that Rome ever boasted, which had, at length,

length, an happy change; and each day he recovered some of his dormant faculties.

His first rational enquiries were after his beloved Alice, and her sister Ellen; and was informed, that Alice was recovering slowly, but that Ellen waited with impatience to throw herself at his feet. Such intelligence did more for Julius than the whole Roman senate could have done; and he quickly begged her appearance, with which she immediately complied. Embarrassed at her new situation, being acquainted with the discovery of the deception by the domestic we before mentioned, she yet feared not his anger, but for the meanness she was sensible that accompanied all deception: however he was her only friend, and Alice and her son had no other:

accordingly she resolved to conceal nothing from him, but to make a full confession of every step she had taken since the fatal destruction of her father's house, and which, in consequence of the many resolutions he had declared of restoring, seemed to be a most fit opportunity of disclosing the situation of her parents. She therefore on her first entering his apartment attempted to throw herself at his feet, but weak, as he still was, he prevented her; he caught her in his arms, and embraced her with transport, and tears of affection. "Dear
" and amiable Ellen," said he, "how
" dost thou renovate my enfeebled
" frame by once more blessing me
" with thy presence! Long and
" painful has been my absence from
" all my soul held dear; but happily,
" I have not been continually sensible
" of

“ of my loss. My illness so much re-
“ sembled that of my Alice and your-
“ self, that though distressing as it
“ seems, yet probably preserves the
“ lives that otherwise would sink un-
“ der the weight of such dire alarms.
“ Happy insensibility ! that I knew
“ not the extent of your sufferings !
“ Happy Edwin, that thy youth, in
“ the midst of health, was not aware
“ of the dangers that threatened thee,
“ if thou hadst lost us, who alone can
“ stand thy friends ! But tell me,
“ dear Ellen, what hope have I of
“ Alice being restored to health and
“ reason ?” Ellen assured him, that
her melancholy decreased but slowly ;
but her hopes were not diminished ;
Alice’s native air, and the presence of
her son, with the restoration of the
house of Arville, gave her the firmest
reason to suppose, with the blessing

of the Supreme Governor of the world, and what she herself had to disclose to them, would prove effectually her cure: and if so, gratitude itself must bow to love, to one so generously benevolent, great, and noble as himself.

Jorros felt the compliment with conscious hope that all would be realized; and now intreated her to mention what she had to disclose. She told him she must first obtain his positive pardon, or she could not dare to utter a word, lest she should forfeit for ever his favour, which would to her be worse than death. He assured her, that so great was his confidence in her, that nothing she could utter could obliterate the great esteem and affection he entertained for her person and qualities, and bid her hastily speak her mind with the utmost freedom.

freedom. "I am, my lord," she replied, "as you now know, the youngest daughter of the unfortunate Baron Arville; and this constitutes the greatest part of my fear for your forgiveness. You were too generous to be deceived; but I knew not your great and noble virtues, till experience had taught me the full force of your value. The request I made you in Britain of bringing away my own apparel you are now at no loss to conjecture; I wished to appear in my own character, but my sex precluded the idea till your affection for Alice, and esteem for me proved an auspicious moment for the trial. I hoped to have recalled her sense of recollection on the first sight of me, and I was gratified at sustaining my own character without your

K 4

" knowing

“ knowing my real sex.” “ But
“ why, my Ellen, did you fear me in
“ that character?” “ Because, my
“ lord, my heart was pre-engaged,
“ and made me a wanderer in my own
“ country ; and I will freely confess,
“ it was a lover I sought ; which
“ made me quit my father, mother,
“ and sister.” “ What,” says Julius,
“ have you now such relatives as you
“ have just mentioned ?” “ Yes, my
“ lord, I had when I left Britain ;
“ and I long for nothing so much as
“ to introduce you to them !” “ Oh,
“ Ellen,” said he, “ if my word had
“ not passed, I could not have for-
“ given you this offence against na-
“ ture. It was all my wish to have
“ restored the house of Arville to its
“ rightful lord ; why then hast thou
“ thus played thy part so contrary,
“ when you so well knew my wishes ?”
“ Indeed,”

“ Indeed,” answered Ellen, “ it has
“ such strong appearances against me,
“ as to make me deserve the loss of
“ your favour : but I assure you, on
“ my honour, I acted with the con-
“ sent of my friends in the part I
“ undertook. I could not, at that
“ early juncture, form an idea equal
“ to the greatness of your character.
“ I did not enjoy your confidence;
“ and love for my brother’s widow
“ and orphan, pleaded more strongly
“ in the hearts of all of us than self-
“ comforts. Had Alice been in a
“ state of convalescence ; could she
“ have been sensible of her situation,
“ gladly would I have left her, and
“ gladly would my family have re-
“ ceived her in their poverty : but
“ her insensible state, which was
“ aided by your kind sympathizing
“ benevolence and love, put it past

“an argument, that she, for her own
“lake and child’s, should accom-
“pany you; as the reverse might
“have been for her great injury, and
“fatal to their future prospects.”
“And in what miserable circum-
“stances hast thou then left thy be-
“loved friends?” hastily exclaimed
Julius, “perhaps, ere now, perishing
“for want.” “Not so, my lord,”
replied Ellen; “their habitation in-
“deed is not comfortable: but I hope
“they want not the necessaries,
“though they may the luxuries of
“life.” Julius begged to know the
particulars of their retreat, which El-
len faithfully related from his first
taking the castle to the present mo-
ment, concealing nothing; at which
Julius sat some moments lost in won-
der, and shocked extremely at the de-
vastation occasioned by war. “Al-
“ways,”

"ways," said he, "was my nature
"averse to its cool cruelties: but ne-
"ver till this moment did I feel the
"severities of its horrors in my breast.
"Heroic maid!" he cried in ecstasy,
and embraced her, "how happy must
"that man be whom thou favour'st as
"a lover. Would to Heaven that half
"my fortune, nay freely would I part
"from all, to make thee happy, de-
"serving girl! Mayst thou yet be
"so! and might I be the instrument
"to compleat that happiness! We
"will hasten to Britain. But first
"give me the name of thy lover,
"and every prison shall be closely
"searched; so that if thy love be a
"prisoner, he may be set free, to
"wear thy silken bonds." Ellen he-
sitated. "What dost fear, dear El-
"len, friend of my heart?" "Shall
"I not fear for so dear a life?" said

Ellen with tears. "Can I not be
" among those that seek him, with-
" out exposing a name, which rends
" my heart to utter?" "No!" said
Julius, rather haughtily. "I see you
" doubt my honour; by heavens, his
" happiness is as dear to me as
" your's. You are my sister; and I
" will, if he be found, be to him a
" brother." Ellen, sighing, said,
"Raymond is worthy the friendship
" of Julius; two such noble souls
" must love each other!" Julius,
looking wildly at her, said, "Repeat
" the name, Ellen. Did my ears de-
" ceive me?" "Raymond, of the
" house of Cornwall," replied she,
much agitated. "Gracious powers!"
exclaimed he; "it is my friend, my
" beloved Raymond! Hasten us, aus-
" picious winds, to the British shore,
" that I may reward such unexampled
love

“ love and constancy. Who could
“ have thought I had been fostering
“ the wife of Raymond, while he has
“ been long lamenting as dead, El-
“ len, of Arville? Never can I suffer
“ rest to be my portion, till I unite
“ my lovely friends. I did restore
“ him to liberty. He has been at
“ Rome; and I procured him an ap-
“ pointment in Britain; but of which
“ I believe he is not now in posses-
“ sion. Hasten to Alice, endeavour
“ to make her know you; and ac-
“ quaint her with our speedy jour-
“ ney. Two days hence we will leave
“ Rome, perhaps for ever. Be that
“ as it may, we must now quickly
“ depart. I am all on fire to behold
“ and embrace Raymond, and give
“ to him his better half.” “ Alas!”
said Ellen, “ he knows not the affec-
“ tion I bear him; and I know not
“ that

“ that he has any for me: but his
“ fight alone is what I fought, hop-
“ ing in some character to do him
“ service: and I will assure you, dear
“ as I hold him in my heart, neither
“ my family, nor himself knows of
“ my strong attachment; his affec-
“ tions may be far otherwise engaged,
“ and to see him happy would con-
“ stitute mine.” “ Peace,” said Ju-
lius, “ thou knowest not what thou
“ sayest. I can tell you, that Ray-
“ mond’s love is pure and ardent;
“ that notwithstanding he thought
“ you long since dead, he has, and
“ ever will, till the auspicious mo-
“ ment that he calls you his, go
“ mourning all his days. To me he
“ confest his love for you, and for you
“ he rejected the daughter of a Roman
“ senator.”

ELLEN.

ELLEN shed tears of joy, but could not reply to Julius. She retired to her apartment; and composed herself to attend Alice. She found Edwin and his mother performing with their voices and instruments the song of Edwin, and joined with fervor in it. Alice viewed her with astonishment, and enquired by what magic she had attained the song of Edwin? "It is
" long since you taught your Ellen
" at Arville Castle that song," replied Ellen: "but she loved Alice
" and Edwin too well to let change
" of time or circumstances occasion
" her memory to fail of so delightful a theme." "Ah! Ellen, I
" remember well, I taught it to her," said Alice. "Dear Ellen, why did
" not thy cruel enemies spare thee
" for my comfort?" Ellen burst into tears. "Beloved Alice," said she,
" I was

“ I was spared for your sake, and Ed-
“ win’s. I am Ellen ! Behold, and
“ know, and own me for your sister.
“ I nursed your child. I taught him
“ that song, which no one else could
“ do. I followed you in disguise, as
“ a harper. I have long attended you
“ in my own character ; and I now
“ intreat you to believe I am your
“ own Ellen. Edwin can bear so
“ much testimony to my veracity, as
“ to acknowledge I have taught him
“ to call you his mother, and the
“ manners of Britain ; that he is heir
“ of the house of Arville ; and that
“ we are now going to be put in pos-
“ session of it. He knows that our
“ noble friend is getting hasty pre-
“ parations for our journey, and that
“ we leave Rome in two days.” Ed-
win tenderly embracing his mother,
said, “ Indeed, all this is true. El-
“ len

“ Ellen is my own aunt ; and through
“ her we shall all be happy. My
“ lord Julius wishes only for your
“ health ; and says, you shall be lady,
“ and I the lord of Arville Castle.”

Alice viewed Ellen fullenly and silently ; but embraced her son, with affection. Ellen bid them adieu ; and hastened to prepare for their departure.

ALICE, for the first time, after Ellen had left the room, shed abundance of tears ; and the young Edwin continued soothing her till she at last acknowledged that she believed it was Ellen. Edwin immediately sought for Ellen, and presented her to his mother, who warmly embraced her, and said, “ My dear Ellen must excuse my wandering ; I am not well
“ here !” pointing to her head ; “ but
“ I always

" I always thought Ellen murdered,
" which made me shun you as an im-
" postor. To whom am I indebted
" for your preservation? that, while
" my recollection serves me, I may
" pay my grateful thanks. I do not
" long expect this relief from my dis-
" order; I feel my head inclined to
" wander." Edwin flew for Julius,
who, weak and feeble as he was, came
animated to a degree, and threw him-
self at her feet, and bathed her hand
with tears of joy. " This," said El-
len and Edwin, " is the preserver of
" us, and the house of Arville—to his
" generous protection we owe our
" lives and honor—to his benevo-
" lence and humanity every comfort
" we enjoy, and to him alone we are
" indebted for our intended journey
" to Britain, to be re-instated in our
" house." Alice raised him from the
ground,

ground, and would have embraced his knees, but in his arms he received the intended blessing; and Alice, in endeavouring to speak her thanks, let the overflowings of her heart, in tears, fall plentifully on his bosom, and which spoke more forcibly to the heart of Julius than the most elaborate language. This first meeting was of short duration, as it too much interested the feelings of all; and the time quickly elapsed, when they set sail for Britain.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

[illegible]

This image shows a blank, aged, light gray page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a textured, slightly mottled appearance with visible creases, discoloration, and small dark spots, characteristic of old paper. There is no text or other markings on the page.